

THE FOURTH BOOK OF MOSES, COMMONLY CALLED NUMBERS.

(BE MIDBAR = IN THE DESERT.)

Command to Organize an Army. The Census of Israel.

- 1 **T**HE EVER-LIVING also spoke to
Moses in the desert of Sinai, at
the Hall of Assembly, in the first
month, in the second year of the years
after coming from the land of the
Mitseraim, commanding;
- 2 "Record the names of all the
chiefs of the children of Israel by
the families of their ancestors in the
Register of Names; each man from
3 his own roll; from twenty years old
and upwards, all who can go to war
of the children of Israel—you and
Aaron organize them into their own
4 regiments. They must be assigned
each to his own tribe,—each to the
captain of the house of his ancestors.
5 And these are the names of the men
you shall appoint over them.
- 6 "To Reuben, Alizur the son of
Shadiaur;
- 7 "To Simeon, Shemulial, the son of
Tzurishadai;
- 8 "To Judah, Makshan, the son of
Aminadab;
- 9 "To Issakar, Nakishan the son of
Tzoar;
- 10 "To Zebulon, Aliab, the son of
Khilon;
- 11 "To the sons of Joseph;—To
Ephraim, Alishamar, the son of
Amihud;
- 12 "To Manasseh, Gamalial the son
of Phidatzur;
- 13 "To Benjamin, Abidan the son of
Ghidoni;
- 14 "To Dan, Akhiazzer the son of Ami-
shaddai;
- 15 "To Asher, Phanuel the son of
Aknan,
- 16 "To Gad, Aliashur the son of
Rauel;
- 17 "To Naphthali, Akhira the son of
Ainan;
- 18 "I have nominated these to be

chiefs to bear the standards of the
tribes of their ancestors. They are
the princes of the regiments of
Israel."

Moses and Aaron therefore took 17
these men who were indicated to them
by name, and they summoned all the 18
chiefs of families on the first of the
second month, and they produced to
them their records of the houses of
their fathers, from the Books of
Register, from twenty years old and
upwards by their records;—as the 19
EVER-LIVING commanded to Moses,
and appointed in the desert of
Sinai.

And these were descendants of the 20
sons of Reuben, the oldest son of
Israel, according to the registers of
their ancestral houses in the records
of names on their heads;—all males
of twenty years old and upwards; all
capable of army-service, regimented 21
under the standard of Reuben, forty-
six thousand, five hundred.

Of the men descended from Simeon, 22
by the register of the house of their
fathers, arranged from the records
of names on their heads, all males of
twenty years old and upwards,—all
capable of army-service,—regimented 23
under the standard of Simeon, fifty-
nine thousand, and six hundred.

Of the men descended from Gad, 24
from the registers of their ancestral
houses by the record of names, from
twenty years old and upwards,—all
capable of army-service,—regi- 25
mented under the standard of Gad,
forty-five thousand, six hundred and
fifty.

Of the men descended from Judah, 26
by the register of their ancestral
houses, by the record of names, from
twenty years old and upwards,—all
capable of army-service,—regimented 27
under the standard of Judah, seventy-
four thousand, six hundred.

28 Of the men descended from Issakar, by the registers of their ancestral houses in the record of names, from twenty years old and upwards,—all
29 capable of army-service,—regimented under the standard of Issakar, fifty thousand, four hundred.

30 Of the men descended from Zebulon, by the registers of their ancestral houses in the record of names, from twenty years old and upwards,—all capable of army-ser-
31 vice,—regimented under the standard of Zebulon, fifty-seven thousand, four hundred.

32 Of the men of Joseph; of the sons descended from Ephraim, by the registers of their ancestral houses, by the record of names, from twenty years old and upwards,—all capable of army-service,—regimented under
33 the standard of Ephraim, forty thousand, five hundred.

34 Of the men descended from Manasseh, by the registers of their ancestral houses, by the record of names, from twenty years old and upwards,
35 —all capable of army-service,—regimented under the standard of Manasseh, thirty thousand, two hundred.

36 Of the men descended from Benjamin, by the registers of their ancestral houses, by the record of names, from twenty years old and upwards,
37 —all capable of army-service,—regimented under the standard of Benjamin, thirty-five thousand, four hundred.

38 Of the men descended from Dan, by the registers of their ancestral houses, by the record of names, from twenty years old and upwards,—all
39 capable of army-service,—regimented under the standard of Dan, sixty-two thousand, seven hundred.

40 Of the men descended from Asher, by the registers of their ancestral houses, by the record of names, from twenty years old and upwards,
41 —all capable of army-service,—regimented under the standard of Asher, forty-one thousand, five hundred.

42 Of the men descended from Naphthali, by the registers of their ancestral houses, by the record of names, from twenty years old and upwards,
43 —all capable of army-service,—regimented under the standard of Naphthali, fifty-three thousand, four hundred.

44 These were the Army Divisions that Moses and Aaron organized; and

the generals of Israel were twelve men;—each was appointed from the house of their fathers. And the 45 officers of the children of Israel were all from the house of their fathers from twenty years old and upwards, all capable of army-service in Israel; and the total number of all the en- 46 rolled was six hundred and thirty thousand, five hundred and fifty. The Levites, however, were not en- 47 rolled among them.

The Appointment of a Priesthood.

Then the EVER-LIVING spoke to 48 Moses commanding;

“Regarding the tribe of Levi; you 49 shall not enrol it, so that they may not raise their head in the midst of the sons of Israel. However you 50 shall organize the Levites for the sanctuary of the nation, and for all the services, and for all pertaining to them. They shall carry the sanctuary and all its furniture, and shall encamp round and guard the sanctuary. When the sanctuary is to advance, 51 the Levites shall take it down; and when the sanctuary is to be pitched the Levites shall raise it, and the stranger who approaches shall be killed. But the sons of Israel shall 52 attend each to their own camp, and each to the flag of their regiments, 53 whilst the Levites must attend about the sanctuary of the nation, that there may not be anger upon the nation of the sons of Israel; therefore the Levites shall guard the sanctuary of the nation.”

The children of Israel consequently 54 did all that the EVER-LIVING commanded to Moses. They did it.

The Orders for Encamping.

The EVER-LIVING also spoke to 2 Moses commanding;

“Let each encamp by his flag at the 2 standard of the ancestral house of the sons of Israel. Let them begin to encamp around the Hall of Assembly on the east.

“The encampment on the east, from 3 the sunrising, shall be for the standard of the camp of the army of Judah; and let Nakhshan the son of Aminadab command the sons of Judah, with his organized force of 4 seventy-four thousand, six hundred.

“And let the tribe of Issakar en- 5 camp next them, and the commander of the sons of Issakar be Nathanael

- 6 the son of Tzoar, with his organized force of fifty thousand, four hundred.
- 7 "Next the tribe of Zebulun. Let the commander of the sons of Zebulun be Aliab the son of Khelon, with his organized force of fifty-seven thousand, four hundred.
- 9 "All the regiments in the camp of Judah numbering one hundred and eighty-six thousand, four hundred; this force shall march first.
- 10 "The standard of Reuben shall be on the south with its force; and the commander of the sons of Reuben shall be Aliezar the son of Shadiaur, with his organized force of forty-six thousand, five hundred.
- 12 "And let the tribe of Simeon encamp next them; and the commander of the tribe of Simeon be Shilumiel the son of Tzurishadai; and his organized force be fifty-nine thousand, six hundred.
- 14 "Then the tribe of Gad; and let the commander of the sons of Gad be Alisaph the son of Rael, with his organized force of forty-five thousand, six hundred and fifty. All the organized forces in the camp of Reuben were one hundred and fifty-one thousand, four hundred and fifty. And this division shall march second.
- 17 "But the camp of the Hall of Assembly shall march with the Levites between the camps: as they encamp,—they shall march each alongside of their flag.
- 18 "Let the standard of the camp of Ephraim with his force be on the west; and the commander of the sons of Ephraim shall be Alishamah the son of Amihud; and his organized force be forty thousand, five hundred.
- 20 "And next to him let there be the tribe of Manasseh; and the commander of the sons of Manasseh shall be Gamaliel the son of Phidatzur; and his organized force be thirty-two thousand, two hundred.
- 22 "Then the tribe of Benjamin; and the commander of the sons of Benjamin shall be Abidan the son of Khidaoni; and his organized force be thirty-five thousand, four hundred.
- 24 "All the enrolments in the camp of Ephraim were one hundred and eight thousand, one hundred; they shall march third with their force.
- 25 "Let the standard of the tribe of Dan be on the north with its force; and the commander of the sons of Dan shall be Akhiatur the son of

Amishadai, and his organized force be sixty-two thousand, seven hundred.

"And let the tribe of Asher encamp next them; and the commander of the sons of Asher shall be Phanuel the son of Akran, and his organized force was one and forty thousand, five hundred.

"Then the tribe of Naphthali; and let the commander of the sons of Naphthali be Akhira the son of Ainan; and his organized force be fifty-three thousand, four hundred.

"All the enrolments in the camp of Dan were one hundred and fifty-seven thousand, six hundred, who marched in the rear after their flags."

These were the divisions of the children of Israel, by their ancestral houses. The numbers in the regiments, in the camps of their forces, were six hundred and three thousand, five hundred, and fifty.¹ But the Levites were not enrolled among the sons of Israel, as the EVER-LIVING commanded to Moses.

The children of Israel did as the EVER-LIVING commanded to Moses. They encamped by their regiments, and thus they marched;—each with his family, by the house of their fathers.

Families of Moses and Aaron.

The following were the children of Aaron and Moses at the time the EVER-LIVING spoke with Moses at Mount Sinai.

The Sons of Aaron.

And these are the names of the sons of Aaron. The eldest Nadab, and Abihu, Aliazar and Aithamar. These were the names of the sons of Aaron the consecrated priest, who filled the office of priests. But Nadab and Abihu died before the LORD, when they offered strange fire before the EVER-LIVING in the Wilderness of Sinai; and they had no sons, so Aliazar and Aithamar became priests in the presence of Aaron their father.

Confirmation of Levites as Priests.

Then the EVER-LIVING spoke to Moses saying,

"Present the tribe of Levi, and station them before Aaron the priest,

¹ Note 50=lit. "a set of ten fives."—F. F.

- 7 and they shall serve with him, and guard what is intrusted to him, and the trusts of all the congregation, in the Hall of Assembly, and perform
8 the services of the sanctuary. They shall also guard all the furniture of the Hall of Assembly, and the trusts of the children of Israel, and perform
9 the services of the sanctuary. Therefore give the Levites to Aaron and his sons. Presenting them to him as an offering for the children of Israel, and instruct Aaron and his sons, that they must preserve the priesthood, and the stranger who approaches it shall die."

Separation of the Tribe of Levi.

- 11 The EVER-LIVING also spoke to Moses commanding;—
12 "I, also, now, have taken the Levites from among the children of Israel; so the Levites shall be Mine, for all the firstborn were Mine at the time when I cut off all the firstborn in the land of the Mitzeraim. I then dedicated all the firstborn of Israel to Myself, from man and also from beast. They shall be Mine. I am the EVER-LIVING."

The Levites to be Organized.

- 14 The EVER-LIVING also spoke to Moses in the Wilderness of Sinai, commanding,
15 "Organize the sons of Levi by their ancestral houses from their registers,—you must organize every male from a month old and upwards."
16 Moses consequently organized them as the EVER-LIVING commanded; and these were the sons of Levi by their names;—Ghershon, and Kahath, and Merari.
18 And these were the names of the sons of Ghershon, by their registers, Libni and Shimai.
19 And the sons of Kahath, by their registers, Amram and Itzar, Khabron and Ouzial.
20 And the sons of Merari by their registers, Makhli, and Mashhi.

These are from the registers of the ancestral houses of Levi; from the registers of Ghershon, from the registers of Libni; from the registers of Shimai. These were from the registers of the Ghershonites.

- 22 They were organized from the books, every male from a month old

and upwards;¹—their enrolment was seven thousand, five hundred.

"The families of the Ghershonites shall encamp behind the sanctuary, to the westward; and the commander of the house of the Ghershonites shall be Aliasaph the son of Lael. Thus the duties of the sons of Gher-shon shall be in the Hall of Assembly about the sanctuary, and the sacred tabernacle, and the screen before the entrance of the Hall of Assembly, and the curtains of the court, and the screen at the entrance of the court, that is above the sanctuary; and around the altar, and all the instruments for the whole of the services."

And those enrolled from the families of the Amramites, and from the families of the Izeharites, and from the families of the Khabronites, and from the families of the Azrialites, those who were from the families of Kaharites according to the register,—all the males, from a month old and upwards, were eight thousand, six hundred to form the guard of the Holy Place.

"The families of the sons of Kahath shall encamp upon the south side of the sanctuary; and the commander of the families of Kahathites shall be Alizaphan the son of Azial. They shall be entrusted with the ark, and the table, and the lamp, and the altars, and the sacred furniture, which they shall guard; with the screen, and all the appliances of the services. The prince who commands the Levites shall be Aliazar the son of Aaron, the priest, who shall be appointed to guard the sacred trusts."

But in conjunction with Merari were the families of Makhli, and the family of Mushi. They were with the family of Merari. They were also enrolled in the register every male from a month old and upwards, six thousand, two hundred;

"And the commander of the ancestral house of Merari shall be Tzurial the son of Abikhail. They shall encamp at the north side of the sanctuary; and the duties of the sons of Merari shall be the guardianship of the planks of the sanctuary; and the cross-bars, and the pillars; and

¹ V. 22. N.B. lit. "from the son of a renewal and upwards." *I.e.*, a renewal of the simplest astronomical cycle, a month. Compare "Sons of the Resurrection."—F. F.

the bases, and all the appurtenances,
37 as well as the pillars of the surrounding court, and their bases, and the spikes and ropes.

38 "But Moses and Aaron shall encamp before the sanctuary on the east, in front of the Hall of Assembly, and Aaron and his sons shall guard the sacred things confided to them in trust for the children of Israel; and if a stranger approaches he shall be killed."

39 All the enrolments of the Levites that Moses and Aaron organized before the EVER-LIVING from their families, all males from a month old and upwards, were twenty-two thousand.

Census of the Firstborn ordered.

40 The EVER-LIVING also said to Moses, "Take a census of every first-born male of the children of Israel, from a month old and upwards, and record them in a register by name.

41 But you shall separate the Levites for Myself,—I, the EVER-LIVING—instead of all the firstborn of the children of Israel, and the cattle of the Levites also instead of the first-born of the cattle of the children of Israel."

42 Moses therefore enumerated as the EVER-LIVING commanded him, every
43 male of the children of Israel, and all the firstborn males were recorded in the register of names, from a month old and upwards, to the number of forty thousand, two hundred and seventy-three.

Separation of the Levites ordered.

44 The EVER-LIVING afterwards spoke to Moses, commanding;—

45 "Separate the Levites instead of the firstborn of the children of Israel, and the cattle of the Levites instead of their cattle. The Levites shall be

46 Mine; I am the EVER-LIVING. And for the redemption of the firstborn of the children of Israel in excess of the
47 number, take five shekels for each head, by the sacred shekel. Let there be twenty grains to a shekel,
48 and give the money to Aaron and his sons to redeem that excess."

49 Moses consequently collected the money for their ransom from the persons in excess of the firstborn
50 who were ransomed, from the children of Israel. The tax by that money produced one thousand, three

hundred and sixty-five shekels, by the sacred shekel. Moses gave the money 51 of the ransom to Aaron and his sons before the EVER-LIVING:—as the EVER-LIVING commanded to Moses.

The Sons of Kahath appointed Guardians of the Sacred Vessels.

The EVER-LIVING also commanded 4 Moses,

"Enumerate the persons of the 2 sons of Kahath from among the sons of Levi, by the registers of their ancestral house, from the age of 3 thirty years and upwards to fifty years;—all capable of army service,—to conduct the business of the Hall of Assembly. The work of the sons 4 of Kahath shall be in the Hall of Assembly, Holy of Holies. But 5 Aaron and his sons shall proceed to pitch the tabernacle and to take down the veil of the screen and to cover with it the Ark of Witnesses; and 6 they shall put over it the covering of badgers' skins, and spread the beautiful azure cloth over all, and put in the staves. And spread the azure 7 cloth over the Table of the Presence, and place upon it the dishes, and the cups, and the hammers, and the coronal, and the pitcher, and the bread, arranged upon it. Then they 8 shall spread over them the blue-red cloth, and cover it with the covering of badger skin and put the staves into its handles. Then take the 9 azure cloth and cover the lamps of light, and the reflectors, and the snuffers, and their dishes, and collect the whole of the furniture, whose guardianship is with them, and place them, and the whole of the 10 furniture, under the covering of badger skin, and put them on the waggons. They shall also spread 11 the azure cloth over the Golden Altar, and cover it with the covering of badger skin, and put its staves into it.

"They shall also take the whole of 12 the instruments, the custody of which is with them, to the Holy-place, and cover with the azure cloth, and wrap them in the covering of badger skin, and put them on the waggons. They 13 shall also clean the altar and spread over it the purple cloth and place upon it all its instruments whose custody is with them;—the shovels, 14 the rakes, and sprinklers, and the

brushes, and all the instruments of the altar, and spread over them a covering of badger skin, and put the staves into the handles. And Aaron and his sons shall complete the covering of the sanctuary, and the whole of the sacred furniture, at the striking of the camp; and afterwards the sons of Kahath shall come to carry them. But they shall not approach the sanctuary for fear of death. The sons of Kahath shall carry them to the Hall of Assembly, and Aliazar, the son of Aaron the priest, shall provide oil for the lamps, and sweet incense, and pure offerings, and Oil of Consecration,—having the care of all the sanctuary, and all that is in it, with the Holy-place, and all its furniture."

17 The EVER-LIVING also commanded Moses and Aaron;

18 "Separate for Me the family of the Kahathites from amongst the Levites, and do this to them, so that they may live and not die. Let Aaron and his sons conduct them up to the Holy of Holies, and set each of them to the work he is to do, and to his labour. But they shall not approach to see, except the covering of the sacred things, for fear of death."

21 The EVER-LIVING also spoke to Moses commanding;—

Organization of the Gherashonites.

22 "Enumerate the individuals of the sons of Gherashon from the registers of their ancestral house, from thirty years old and upwards to fifty years old. Organize all of them capable of army service, to perform the work of the Hall of Assembly. These are the services for the families of the Gherashonites to work and carry out; they shall carry the curtains of the sanctuary and cover the Hall of Assembly with the covering of badger skin that is extended above it, and the screen at the door of the Hall of Assembly, and the curtains of the court that is around the sanctuary, and the altar, and the ropes, and all the furniture of the services, all this is their service. The sons of the Gherashonites shall be under the direction of Aaron and his sons, for any service; for any carrying, and for any labour, and you shall organize them for every labour by their families. This shall be the service of the families of the Gherashonites at the Hall

of Assembly; and also their duties under the order of Aithamar, the son of Aaron the priest.

Organization of the Sons of Merari.

"Organize the sons of Merari from the registers of their ancestral house; from thirty years old up to fifty years old. Organize all capable of army service, to do the work of the Hall of Assembly. And this is their duty to carry in all the appliances of the Hall of Assembly; the planks of the sanctuary, and the cross-bars; and the pillars and their sockets; with the pillars of the court around it, and their sockets, and pegs, and ropes; with all the furniture and all the instruments; and they shall pack up the furniture carefully for carriage.

"This shall be the duty of the family of the sons of Merari in all their service in the Hall of Assembly, under the orders of Aithamar, the son of Aaron the priest."

Moses consequently organized, and Aaron enumerated the family of the sons of Kahathites from the registers of their ancestral house, from the age of thirty years and upwards to fifty years of age, all capable of army service, for work in the Hall of Assembly. And there were organized from the registers, one thousand, seven hundred and fifty. These were enrolled from the registers of the Kahathites, all for service in the Hall of Assembly, as Moses and Aaron were instructed from the presence of the EVER-LIVING, by the hand of Moses.

The sons of Gherashon were thus enrolled from the registers of their ancestral house, from thirty years of age, and upwards, to fifty years old, all capable of army service, to serve in the Hall of Assembly. And there were enrolled from the registers of their ancestral house, one thousand-six hundred and sixty. They were organized from the families of the sons of Gherashon, all for service in the Hall of Assembly, whom Moses and Aaron organized by the command of the EVER-LIVING.

There were also enrolled from the families of the sons of Merari from the registers of their ancestral house, from thirty years of age upwards to fifty years old, all capable of army service, for the service of the Hall of

- 44 Assembly, and their number was by
the registers, three thousand, two
45 hundred. These were enrolled from
the registers of the sons of Merari
whom Moses and Aaron appointed
by an order from the EVER-LIVING,
by the hand of Moses.
- 46 Moses and Aaron, and the Princes
of Israel, with the Levites, appointed
all those enrolled from the registers
47 of their ancestral houses, from thirty
years of age, and upwards, to fifty
years old, who were all to execute
the duties of the service, and do the
carrying in the Hall of Assembly;
48 and their number was nine thousand,
49 five hundred and eighty. They were
appointed by order of the EVER-
LIVING, by the hand of Moses, every
one to his duty, and to his office, and
appointment; as the EVER-LIVING
commanded to Moses.

Command to expel Prostitutes and Profligates from the Camp.

- 5 The EVER-LIVING also spoke to
Moses commanding;—
- 2 "Command the children of Israel
that they must send out of the camp
all afflicted by contagious disease,
and all with venereal diseases, and all
3 of foul life; whether male or female,
so that they may not infect the camp,
in the midst of which I dwell."
- 4 The children of Israel accordingly
did so, and sent them to the outside
of the camp, as the EVER-LIVING had
commanded to Moses. The children
of Israel did it.

The Law of Forgiveness of Sin.

- 5 Then the EVER-LIVING commanded
to Moses saying;—
- 6 "Say to the children of Israel, The
man or woman who perversely com-
mits any human sin against the EVER-
7 LIVING; that person is guilty. But
if they make confession of the sin
which they have committed, and would
remedy the wrong they have done,
and remove it from them, let them
add a fifth part to it, and give to him
8 who has been wronged. But if the
man does not possess the means of
restoration for the wrong he has done,
the culprit shall return to the EVER-
LIVING, by the priest, in place of it,
a ram as an expiation which shall
expiate for him as to the wrong.
- 9 "And every such oblation conse-
crated by the children of Israel, which

they offer through the priest, shall be
the priest's. But whatever a person 10
devotes must be his own property;
and what a man gives to the priest
shall be the priest's property." 1

Law of Suspicion of Adultery.

The EVER-LIVING also spoke to 11
Moses commanding;—

"Speak to the children of Israel 12
and say to them; If a man suspects
his wife of having gone astray, and of
a man having had sinful intercourse
with her; and that his wife has hidden 13
from his sight that she has been de-
filed; but he has no witness of it,
and she has not been divorced; yet 14
the breath of suspicion has passed
over her, and he suspects his wife,
that she has been defiled, or that a
breath of suspicion has passed over
her, and he suspects his wife although
she may not have been defiled; then 15
the man shall bring his wife to the
priest, and shall bring as a gift for
her with her, the twelfth of an epha
of barley meal, without any oil poured
upon it; nor shall he put incense with
it,—for it is an offering of jealousy;—
an offering of remembrance, for re-
minding of frailty.

"Then the priest shall make her 16
advance, and place her before the
EVER-LIVING, when the priest shall 17
take holy water in an earthenware
cup, and some dust that is on the
floor of the sanctuary, and put it into
the water. The priest shall then 18
station the woman before the EVER-
LIVING, and uncover the woman's
head, and place in her hands the
Gift of Remembrance,—the Gift of
Jealousy,—and the bitter water of
cursing shall be in the hand of the
priest. The priest shall also ad- 19
minister an oath to her, and say to
the woman;

"If a man has not had connection
with you, and if you have not turned
to a seducer instead of your hus-
band, be free from the water of
this bitter curse; but if you have 20
turned to another than your husband,
with whom you have been sinning,
and that a man has been to you
instead of your husband'—(here the 21
priest shall swear the woman with
this oath, and the priest shall say to

1 V. 10. This verse is very obscure in the
Hebrew, but the version above given seems
to be its meaning.—P. F.

the woman)—'then may the EVER-LIVING make you a curse and imprecation among your relatives! May the EVER-LIVING make your thigh to rot and your belly to swell, and may this water of cursing become in your bowels as rottenness to the bowels, and as swelling to your thigh!'

"(Then the woman shall say) 'So let it be! So let it be!'

"The priest shall afterwards write these curses on a tablet, and wash them off with the bitter water, and the woman shall drink the water of the bitter curses, and swallow the water of the bitter curses.

"Then the priest shall take from the hand of the woman the Gift of Jealousy, and wave the Gift before the EVER-LIVING, and offer it upon the altar. The priest shall also take a handful from the remembrance, and cause it to be burnt at the altar, and after that the woman shall drink the water, and the water drunk shall—if she has been corrupted, and has dishonoured her husband—then become a bitter curse, and swell her belly, and rot her thigh, and the woman shall be a curse in the circle of her relatives.

"But if the woman has not defiled herself, and is pure, then she shall be free from them, and be conceiving children.

"These are the laws about the suspicion that a woman has turned from her husband and degraded herself; or for a man when there passes over him the breath of suspicion, and he suspects his wife, and brings her before the EVER-LIVING. The priest shall proceed towards them according to this enactment, and free the husband from his passion, and thus continue the woman's marriage rights."

Law of Nazarite Vows.

The EVER-LIVING also spoke to Moses commanding;—

"Speak to the children of Israel and say that a man or woman may dedicate themselves by a vow. The Nazarite by separation to the EVER-LIVING shall not consume grapes or sugar; fermented grapes or fermented sugar; nor shall he drink any decoction of intoxicating berries, or consume cakes of those berries, or their powder. During the days of dedication he shall not consume anything which is made from the vine plant,

from its roots to its skins. Nor during 5 the period of his dedication shall a razor be passed over his head, until he has completed the time for which he dedicated himself to the EVER-LIVING. The flowing locks of the hair of his head shall be sacred to the EVER-LIVING. Nor shall he, during 6 the whole period of his dedication to the EVER-LIVING, approach to a dead body; nor defile himself for his father 7 or his mother, or his brother, or his sister, if they die; for the dedication to his GOD is upon his head. All the 8 period of his dedication he is sacred to the EVER-LIVING. Even if anyone 9 shall die near him suddenly, that incident will defile the dedication of his head. To purify himself he shall shave his head on the same day, and it shall be shaven again on the seventh day; and on the eighth day he shall 10 bring two turtle-doves or two young pigeons to the priest, at the door of the Hall of Assembly, and the priest shall 11 use one of them for a sin-offering, and the other for a burnt-offering, and expiate for him about the defilement of his body, and his head shall be sanctified in that day. But he shall 12 separate himself anew for his dedication to the EVER-LIVING, and bring a he lamb of one year as a trespass-offering, for the previous period has failed by a defect in his separation.

Law of Release from Nazaritehood.

"And these are the rules for the 13 Nazarite, at the day when he completes the period of his separation—he shall come to the door of the Hall of Assembly, and present as his gift 14 to the EVER-LIVING a perfect he lamb of the year for a burnt-offering; and a perfect ewe lamb of the year for a trespass-offering; and a perfect ram for a peace-offering; and a basket of 15 cakes of flour mixed with oil; with their food and drink offerings, and 16 the priest shall offer them before the EVER-LIVING, and make the sin-offering, and the burnt-offering. But 17 of the ram he shall make a sacrifice of thanks to the EVER-LIVING with the basket of cakes, and the priest shall also offer the food-offering, and the drink-offering.

"He shall then shave the Nazarite 18 at the door of the Hall of Assembly, at the end of his dedication, and take the hair of his head that he had dedicated and put it upon the fire

- which is under the sacrifice of thanks.
- 19 Then the priest shall take the boiled shoulder of the ram, and one of the unfermented cakes from the basket, and one of the thin cakes, and put them into one of the hands of the Nazarite, who is being released from his dedication. Then the priest shall wave them before the EVER-LIVING, they shall be sacred to the priest, as well as the raised breast, and the raised leg;—and the Nazarite may afterwards drink wine.
- 21 "These are the laws of separation when anyone vows to give himself to the EVER-LIVING. He shall not dedicate himself, unless he knows he is able to perform what his mouth has vowed. When he has vowed he shall perform it, by this law of separation."

The Priestly Blessing.

- 22 The EVER-LIVING also spoke to Moses, commanding;—
- 23 "Speak to Aaron and to his sons, You shall bless the children of Israel in this way, saying;—
- 24 "'The LORD bless you and guard you.
- 25 The LORD spread His canopy over you,
And be gracious to you.
- 26 The LORD make His face beam upon you,
And give you peace !'
- 27 "Then I will place My Name upon the children of Israel and bless them."

The Consecration of the Sanctuary.

- 7 And when the time came that the sanctuary was finished, Moses erected, and consecrated, and sanctified it, with all its furniture; and the altar and all its instruments; and sanctified them. Then the Princes of Israel, the heads of their ancestral houses, the Princes of the tribes and the commanders of regiments, approached, and brought as their gifts to present to the EVER-LIVING six covered waggons and twelve bullocks; a waggon for two princes, and a bullock for each, and presented them before the sanctuary.
- 4 Then the EVER-LIVING spoke to Moses, commanding;—
- 5 "Receive them, and they shall be to perform the work of the Hall of Assembly. Therefore give them to

the Levites, each according to the amount of their work."

Moses consequently accepted the 6 waggons, and the bullocks, and gave them to the Levites;—he allotted two 7 waggons and four of the bullocks to the sons of Ghershon, for their work.

And four of the waggons and eight 8 of the bullocks he allotted to the sons of Merari for their work, under the control of Aithamar, the son of Aaron, the priest.

But to the sons of Kahath he gave 9 none, for the sacred work they did was laid upon their shoulders.

Consecration of the Altar.

The princes also came forward at 10 the dedication of the altar, on the day of its consecration, and the princes presented their gifts before the altar.

Gifts from the Princes.

But the EVER-LIVING said to Moses, 11 "Let them offer their gifts at the dedication of the altar, one prince a day, then another prince a day."

So Nakhshon the son of Aminadab 12 of the tribe of Judah, presented his gift the first day; and his gift was a 13 silver dish of a hundred and thirty shekels, a silver watering-can, of seventy shekels, by the sacred weights, both filled with fine flour mixed with oil as a food-offering.

One cup made of gold, full of 14 incense.

A bullock from the fold; a ram; 15 a sheep of the year, for a burnt-offering, one he-goat for a sin-offering and 16 two bullocks for a sacrifice of thanks, 17 with five rams, five he-goats, five sheep of a year old;—these were the gift of Nakhshon the son of Aminadab.

On the second day Nathaniel the 18 son of Tzoar, prince of Issakar, came forward. He offered as his gift a 19 silver dish of one hundred and thirty shekels, a silver watering-pot of seventy shekels, by the sacred weight, both of them full of fine flour mixed with oil, as a food-offering. A cup 20 made of gold, full of incense; a 21 bullock from the fold, a ram, a sheep of the year for a burnt-offering, a he- 22 goat for a sin-offering, and as a sacri- 23 fice of thanks, two bullocks, five rams, five he-goats, five sheep of a year old;—this was the offering of Nathaniel the son of Tzoar.

24 On the third day, the prince of the
sons of Zebulon, Aliab, the son of
25 Khelon, presented a silver dish of a
hundred and thirty shekels, a silver
watering-can of seventy shekels, by
the sacred weights, both full of fine
flour mixed with oil for a food-offer-
26 ing; a cup made of gold, full of
27 incense, a bullock from the fold, a
ram, a sheep of the year, for a burnt-
28 offering; a he-goat for a sin-offering;
29 and for a sacrifice of thanks two
bullocks, five rams, five he-goats, five
year old sheep—these were the gift
of Aliab the son of Khelon.

30 On the fourth day, the prince of
the sons of Reuben, Aliazer the son
31 of Shadiaur, presented a silver dish
of one hundred and thirty shekels, a
silver watering-can of seventy shekels,
by the sacred weights; both full of
fine flour mixed with oil, for a food-
32 offering; a cup made of gold, full of
33 incense; a bull from the fold, a ram,
a lamb of the year for a burnt-offer-
34 ing; a he-goat for a sin-offering; and
35 for a sacrifice of thanks, two bullocks,
five rams, five he-goats, five year old
sheep—these were the gift of Aliazer
the son of Shadiaur.

36 On the fifth day the prince of the
sons of Simeon, Shelumial the son
37 of Tzorishadai, presented a silver dish
of one hundred and thirty shekels,
by the sacred weight, a silver water-
ing-can of seventy shekels, by the
sacred shekel, both full of fine flour
mixed with oil for a food-offering;
38 a cup made of gold, full of incense;
39 a bull from the fold, a ram, a year
40 old lamb for a burnt-offering, a he-
41 goat for a sin-offering; and for a
sacrifice of thanks, two bullocks, five
rams, five he-goats, five year old
sheep—these were the gift of Shelu-
mial the son of Tzorishadai.

42 On the sixth day the prince of the
sons of Gad, Aliasaf the son of Rael
43 presented a silver dish of one hundred
and thirty shekels, by the sacred
weight, a watering-can of seventy
shekels, by the sacred weight, both
full of fine flour mixed with oil for a
44 food-offering; a cup made of gold,
45 full of incense, a bull from the stall,
a ram, a lamb of one year old for a
46 burnt-offering; and for a sacrifice of
47 thanks, two bullocks, five rams, five
he-goats, five year old sheep—these
were the gift of Aliasaf the son of
Rael.

48 On the seventh day the prince of

the sons of Ephraim, Alishamah the
son of Amihud, presented a silver 49
dish of one hundred and thirty
shekels, a silver watering-can of
seventy shekels, by the sacred
weights; both full of fine flour mixed
with oil for a food-offering; a cup 50
made of gold, full of incense; a bull 51
from the fold, a ram, a sheep of a year
old for a burnt-offering; a he-goat 52
for a sin-offering; and for a sacrifice 53
of thanks two bullocks, five rams,
five he-goats, five year old sheep—
these were the gift of Alishamah the
son of Amihud.

On the eighth day the prince of the 54
sons of Manasseh, Gamalial the son
of Phidhatur, presented a silver dish 55
of one hundred and thirty shekels,
a silver watering-can of seventy
shekels, by the sacred weights, both
full of fine flour mixed with oil, for
a food-offering; a cup made of gold, 56
full of incense; a bull from the fold, 57
a ram, a year old sheep, for a burnt-
offering; a he-goat for a sin-offering; 58
and for a sacrifice of thanks, two 59
bullocks, five rams, five sheep of a
year old. These were the gift of
Gamalial the son of Phidhatur.

On the ninth day the prince of the 60
sons of Benjamin, Abidan, the son
of Gadoni, presented a silver dish of 61
one hundred and thirty shekels, a
silver watering-can of seventy shekels,
by the sacred weights, both full of
fine flour mixed with oil, as a food-
offering; a cup made of gold, full of 62
incense, a bull from the fold, a ram, 63
a sheep of a year old, for a burnt-
offering; and for a sacrifice of thanks, 64
two bullocks, five rams, five year old 65
sheep. These were the gift of Abidan
the son of Gadoni.

On the tenth day the prince of the 66
sons of Dan, Akhiazar the son of
Amishadai, presented a silver dish of 67
one hundred and thirty shekels; a
silver watering-can of seventy shekels,
by the sacred weights, both full of
fine flour mixed with oil, as a food-
offering; a cup made of gold, full of 68
incense; a bull from the fold, a ram, 69
a year old sheep for a burnt-offering,
a he-goat for a sin-offering, and as a 70
sacrifice of thanks, two bullocks, five 71
rams, five he-goats, five year old
sheep. These were the gift of
Akhiazar the son of Amishadai.

On the eleventh day the prince of 72
the sons of Asher, Phanuel the son of
Akran, presented a silver dish of one 73

- hundred and thirty shekels, a silver watering-can of seventy shekels, by the sacred weights, both full of fine flour mixed with oil, as a food-offering, a cup made of gold, full of incense, a bull from the fold, a ram, a sheep of a year old, for a burnt-offering; a he-goat for a sin-offering, and for an offering of thanks, two bullocks, five rams, five goats, five year old sheep. These were the gift of Phanuel the son of Akran.
- On the twelfth day the prince of the sons of Naphthali, Akhaira the son of Ainan, presented a silver dish of one hundred and thirty shekels, a silver watering-can of seventy shekels, by the sacred weights, both full of fine flour mixed with oil, for a food-offering, a cup made of gold full of incense, a bull from the fold, a ram, a lamb of a year old, for a burnt-offering, a he-goat for a sin-offering, and as a sacrifice of thanks, two bullocks, five rams, five he-goats, five sheep of a year old. These were the gift of Akhaira the son of Ainan.
- These were dedicated on the altar at the time it was consecrated, by the Princes of Israel;—twelve silver dishes; twelve silver watering-cans, twelve cups made of gold. Each of the silver dishes was one hundred and thirty, and each of the watering-cans seventy; all the silver vessels were one thousand four hundred, by the sacred shekel.
- The cups of gold full of incense were twelve; ten to a cup, by the sacred shekel; all the gold was one hundred and twenty.
- All the bullocks for burnt-offerings were twelve, the bulls and rams, twelve, the lambs of a year old, twelve, with their food-offerings, and the he-goats were twelve for sin-offerings.
- And all the cattle for the sacrifices of thanks, twenty-four bulls, sixty rams, sixty he-goats, sixty sheep of a year old. Thus the altar was dedicated after its consecration.

God speaks to Moses at the Dedication of the Altar.

- Then Moses went into the Hall of Assembly to speak to HIM, and heard the VOICE speaking to him from the Mercy-seat, which is upon the Ark of the Witnesses, from between the two Kerubim, there HE spoke to him.

Consecration of the Lamps.

And the EVER-LIVING spoke to 8 Moses commanding;—

"Speak to Aaron, and say to him; 2 When you set up the lamps opposite the reflectors, light the seven lamps."

Aaron consequently did so, erecting 3 the lamps opposite the reflectors, as the EVER-LIVING commanded to Moses. And this was the form of the 4 reflectors, concaves of gold on stalks at the cups. They were concave that they might reflect the light, as the EVER-LIVING showed Moses, so he made the reflectors.

The Levites consecrated to God.

The EVER-LIVING also spoke to 5 Moses commanding;—

"Take the Levites from among the 6 children of Israel and purify them. Purify them in this manner; pour 7 water for sin over them, and let them pass it naked over all their body, and wash their clothing and purify themselves.

"Then take a bull from the fold, 8 with its food-offering of fine flour mixed with oil, and a second bull from the fold take for a sin-offering, and present the Levites before the 9 Hall of Assembly, and collect all the chiefs of the children of Israel. And 10 when you have presented the Levites before the EVER-LIVING, then the children of Israel shall lay their hands upon the Levites, and Aaron 11 shall wave the Levites before the EVER-LIVING for the children of Israel, and they shall be appointed to perform the services of the EVER-LIVING.

"Then the Levites shall lay their 12 hands upon the head of the bulls, and Aaron shall make of the first a sin-offering, and of the other a burnt-offering to the EVER-LIVING, to expiate for the Levites.

"Afterwards station the Levites 13 before Aaron, and before his sons, and wave them to the EVER-LIVING, and separate the Levites from the 14 midst of the children of Israel, and the Levites shall be Mine. And after 15 that you shall bring the Levites to serve in the Hall of Assembly, but you must purify them and wave them; for they are a Gift, given to Me, from 16 out of the children of Israel. I have taken them to Myself instead of the first-born product of the womb of all

17 the children of Israel. For all the first-born of the children of Israel were Mine, of man or of beast, from the day when I cut off all the first-born in the land of the Mitzeraim I sanctified them to Myself. Therefore I take the Levites instead of all the first-born of the children of Israel, and I give the Levites to Aaron and to his sons from among the children of Israel to perform the duties of the children of Israel in the Hall of Assembly, and to expiate for the children of Israel, and that the children of Israel may not be struck when the children of Israel approach to the sanctuary."

20 Moses and Aaron consequently did in conjunction with all the chiefs of the families of the children of Israel to the Levites, according to all that the EVER-LIVING commanded to Moses, regarding the Levites. The children of Israel did it to them. 21 They also offered sin-offerings for the Levites, and they washed their clothing, and Aaron waved them before the EVER-LIVING, and Aaron expiated for them, and purified them, and after that the Levites went to perform their duties in the Hall of Assembly before the EVER-LIVING; as JEHOVAH commanded to Moses about the Levites, so they did.

The Duties of the Levites.

23 The EVER-LIVING also spoke to Moses commanding;—
24 "The Levites shall do this—from the age of twenty-five and upwards they must serve in the duties of the Hall of Assembly, but at the age of fifty they shall retire from service in those duties; and not serve further, except to superintend their brothers in the Hall of Assembly, to keep guard, but not perform the services. This is how you shall arrange for the Levites who superintend."

The Passover instituted.

9 The EVER-LIVING also spoke to Moses in the Wilderness of Sinai, in the second year after coming out from the land of the Mitzeraim, in the first month, commanding;—

2 "Let the children of Israel make the Passover in their Assembly, offering it upon the fourteenth day of this month, between morning and evening. You shall sacrifice it in the

Assembly with all its ordinances, and all its rites."

Moses consequently spoke to the 4 children of Israel to sacrifice the Passover. Therefore they offered the 5 first Passover on the fourteenth day of the month between morning and evening, in the Wilderness of Sinai. The children of Israel did all that the EVER-LIVING commanded to Moses.

But there were men who were unclean from a human corpse, so that they were not able to eat of the Passover, or to sacrifice the Passover on that day, so they approached the presence of Moses and the presence of Aaron upon that day, and those 7 men said; "There is a defilement upon us from a human corpse, by which we are prevented from offering the Gift to the EVER-LIVING in the Assembly together with the children of Israel."

When Moses replied, "Stay, and I 8 will hear what the EVER-LIVING commands about you."

Then the EVER-LIVING spoke to 9 Moses commanding;—

The Unclean to eat the Passover as well as the Clean.

"Speak to the children of Israel 10 saying; Any one of you who may be unclean from a human corpse, or away upon a journey, or in your families, still let him sacrifice the Passover to the EVER-LIVING; in the 11 second month, he shall offer it. It shall be eaten with unfermented bread and bitter herbs. None of it 12 shall remain with you until the morning, and you shall not break a bone of it, but sacrifice it with all the ordinances of the Passover. And 13 whoever may be clean, and has not been on a journey, and fails to sacrifice the Passover,—that person shall be excommunicated from his relatives, for not offering the gift to the EVER-LIVING with the Assembly. That person is guilty for his sin. And if 14 a foreigner resides with you and sacrifices the Passover to the EVER-LIVING it must be with the ordinances of the Passover and its rites. It must be offered with the same ordinances by you, both for the foreigner and the native of the country."

The Erection of the Sanctuary.

On the day of the erection of the 15 sanctuary, the cloud covered the

Tabernacle of the Hall of Witnesses, and in the evening there was over the Tabernacle like the light of fire until morning. So it was always—the cloud covered by day, and the light of fire at night. And when the cloud arose from off the Hall, then the children of Israel marched, and at the place where the cloud settled the children of Israel encamped. The children of Israel marched at the command of the EVER-LIVING, and they encamped at the command of the EVER-LIVING every day:—they encamped where the cloud rested upon the Tabernacle. But when the cloud rested upon the Tabernacle many days, then the children of Israel watched the EVER-LIVING and did not march. And if the cloud remained a number of days upon the Tabernacle by command of the EVER-LIVING they encamped, and at the command of the EVER-LIVING they marched. But if the cloud remained from evening to morning, and the cloud went up at the morning, then they marched, whether day or night; thus when the cloud went up they marched; but whenever for days, or a month, or long periods, the cloud rested upon the Tabernacle the Children of Israel encamped, and did not march; but on it going up they marched. By command of the EVER-LIVING they marched. They waited the order of the EVER-LIVING by the hand of Moses.

The Order to make Gongs.

- 10 The EVER-LIVING also spoke to Moses commanding:—
- 2 "Make two silver gongs for yourself. Make them concave, and use them to call the Parliament, and to prepare the camp for marching, so that when you beat them all the Parliament will know how to come to you at the door of the Hall of Assembly. And if you beat one of them the generals and colonels of the regiments of Israel, will know to come to you. When you beat an Arise, then the divisions of the camp on the east shall march.
- 6 "When you beat the Arise, a second time, the divisions of the camp on the south shall march. They shall prepare to march at the Arise.
- 7 "But at the call for a Meeting you shall blow a trumpet, not sound

an Arise. The sons of Aaron, the 8 priest, shall beat the gongs, and this shall be a perpetual institution for your posterity.

"And when you go to war in your 9 land, to distress those who distress you, terrify them with the gongs, and remember the presence of your EVER-LIVING GOD, and He will encourage you against your enemies.

"Also in the days of your festivals, 10 and in your assemblies, and on the first of the months, beat the gongs with your burnt-offerings, and with your thank-offerings, and they shall be reminders for you before your GOD; I am the EVER-LIVING GOD."

The First March from Sinai in Martial Array.

It occurred in the second year, in 11 the twelfth month, that the cloud arose from off the Tent of Witnesses; so the children of Israel marched 12 from the Wilderness of Sinai, and the cloud settled on the Wilderness of Paran. They also marched in divisions 13 by the order of the EVER-LIVING, under the control of Moses.

The standard of the sons of Judah 14 marched in divisions as an army, and Nakhshon the son of Aminadab was over that army.

And Nathaniel the son of Tzoar 15 was over the army of the tribe of the sons of Issakar;

And Aliab the son of Khelon 16 was over the army of the sons of Zebulon;

Then the sons of Ghershon and the 17 sons of Merari having taken down the Tabernacle marched, carrying the Tabernacle.

Then the standard of the tribe of 18 Reuben marched with their army, and Aliazer the son of Shadiaur was over it.

And Shelumial the son of Tzori- 19 shadai was over the army of the tribe of Simeon.

And Aliasaf the son of Daul was 20 over the army of the tribe of the sons of Gad.

Then the Kahathites marched carry- 21 ing the sanctuary, and they erected the Tabernacle after the advance.

Then the standard of the camp of 22 the sons of Ephraim marched with their army, and Alishamah the son of Amihud was over that army.

And Gamalial the son of Phidatzhur 23

was over the army of the tribe of the sons of Manasseh.

24 And over the army of the tribe of the sons of Benjamin was Abidan the son of Gidoni.

25 Then marched the standard of the camp of the sons of Dan, by regiments, with all the troops of their army, and Akhazer the son of Amishaddi was over that army.

26 And Phanuel the son of Akhan was over the army of the tribe of Asher.

27 And Akhira the son of Ainan was over the army of the sons of Naphthali.

28 Thus the children of Israel marched;—they marched by their armies.

Moses invites his Father-in-Law to join Israel.

29 Moses, however, spoke to Rael the Midianite, the father-in-law of Moses, "March with us to the place that the EVER-LIVING said to us, I will give it to you. March with us, and we will benefit you; for the EVER-LIVING has promised good to Israel."

30 But he replied to him, "I will not go from my country and from my children, with you."

31 But he answered, "Do not now forsake us; for you know the routes of the desert, and you can be eyes for us. And it shall be that if you will go with us then when we receive the success the EVER-LIVING will obtain for us, we will reward you."

33 So they marched from the Mount of the EVER-LIVING three days' journey, and the Ark of the Covenant of the EVER-LIVING marched before them, three days' journey, to guide them to a halting place; and the cloud of the EVER-LIVING was over them by day, in their march from the camp. And when they began their march, Moses stood up and said,

"The EVER-LIVING deliver you from your enemies, and march before your face supporting you." But when they encamped, Moses said, "JEHOVAH bring home the many regiments of Israel."

11 But bad people murmured in the ears of the EVER-LIVING,—and the LORD heard it, and was displeased, so the LORD caused a fire to break out amongst them, and it consumed 2 the rear of the camp; so the people called upon Moses, and Moses prayed

to the EVER-LIVING,—and quenched the fire. He therefore called the 3 name of that spot "The Burnings,"¹ because the LORD there burnt them with fire.

A Mutiny in the Camp.

But the mixed people who were 4 amongst them, longed, and desired, and wept. Some of the children of Israel also did the same and said;

"When shall we eat flesh? We 5 remember the fish that we ate in Mitzer for nothing; with the cucumbers, and the melons, and the lettuces, and the onions, and the garlic! But 6 now our souls are sick! There is nothing but this manna to look at!"²

Moses, however, heard the people 10 weeping, each family at the door of their tent, and the LORD was very angry; and in the eyes of Moses it was bad. Therefore Moses said to 11 the EVER-LIVING, "Why have You brought evil upon Your servant? And why have I not found favour in Your eyes for You to remove the weight of all this people from off me? Have I 12 begotten all these people? or have I brought them forth, that You should say to me carry them in your lap, as a mother carries in her lap, because as a woman I have sworn to feed them? I have no flesh to give to all 13 this nation! who cry to me saying, 'Give us flesh that we may eat.' I cannot feed them! I cannot carry all 14 this nation! They are too heavy for me, and therefore do this to me;—kill me, now, kill me, if I have found 15 favour in Your eyes!—that I may not see myself torn to pieces!"

But the EVER-LIVING answered 16 Moses; "Add to yourself the seventy men from the rulers of Israel whom you know to be able to rule the people and to control them, and take them with you to the Hall of Assembly, and present them there with yourself, and I will descend and speak 17

¹ Thabarah.—F. F.

² Verses 7 to 9 are evidently the note of an old transcriber, so I place them at the foot, as not being part of the original text.—F. F.

And the manna was like coriander seed, 7 and the look of it was like the appearance of gum! The people despised it, but they 8 gathered it and ground it in mills, or beat it in mortars, and boiled it in pans, and made their cakes of it, and its taste was like the taste of pancakes. When the dew 9 fell upon the camp at night the manna came down with it.

with you there, and will support you with the spirit that is upon you, and I will put it upon them, and they shall carry, along with yourself, the load of this nation, and you shall not carry it alone.

- 18 "But as for this People, order them to sanctify themselves for to-morrow, and they shall eat flesh, for the EVER-LIVING has heard their weeping, saying, 'Would that we could eat meat, such as we enjoyed among the Mitzeraim.' Therefore the EVER-LIVING will give them flesh, and they can eat it.
- 19 They shall not eat it for one day only, or for two days, or for five days, or for ten days, or for twenty days; but for a month's time,—until it is ejected from their mouth, and the greedy loathe it,—because they have turned away from the EVER-LIVING, Who is in the midst of them, and wept before Me saying, 'Why has He brought us from the Mitzeraim?'"
- 21 But Moses replied, "There are six hundred thousand of marching men in the nation I am surrounded by,—and you say supply them with flesh meat, and let them eat it for a month. If the sheep and cattle are slaughtered for them, could they obtain it? If all the fish in this sea were added to them,—could they obtain it?"
- 23 The EVER-LIVING, however, answered Moses, "Is the hand of JEHOVAH cut off? Now you shall see whether My Word is honoured or not!"
- 24 Then Moses went out, and related to the People all the words of the EVER-LIVING, and he selected seventy from the rulers of the People, and
- 25 stationed them around the Hall, and the EVER-LIVING descended in the cloud, and spoke with him and strengthened him with the spirit that was over him, and placed it upon each of the seventy rulers, and the spirit rested upon them and they addressed the audience, and did not
- 26 fail. But two men separated themselves in the camp;—the name of one was Aldad, and the name of the other was Midad;—but the spirit fell upon them, for they were enrolled, although they did not go to the Assembly, and they addressed the
- 27 people in the camp. Therefore a youth ran and reported it to Moses

and said, "Aldad and Midad are addressing a meeting in the Camp!" So Joshua the son of Nun, the lieutenant of Moses, went to enquire, and then said "My Lord Moses, restrain them"

Moses, however, replied to him, "You displease me! for I wish the EVER-LIVING would make all the People orators. I wish the EVER-LIVING would lay His spirit upon them."

So Moses and the rulers of Israel remained in camp, and a wind came from the EVER-LIVING and brought up quails from the sea, and they were scattered over the camp for a day's journey on this side, as far as a day's journey on the other side, all round the camp, and were heaped on the surface of the ground.

Then the people arose all that day and all that night, and all the next day to collect the quails, and the smallest collection was ten bags, and they spread them all about the camp.

The flesh was still between their teeth unconsumed when the anger of the LORD burnt against the People, and the LORD struck them with a very great stroke, so they called the name of that spot the "Graves of Greed"¹ for they buried there the people who were greedy. Then the people marched from the Graves of Greed to the Greenfields, and stayed at those fields.²

Miriam and Aaron quarrel with Moses over his Marriage.

Then Miriam and Aaron quarrelled with Moses about the Kushite woman whom he had taken, for Moses had married a Kushite, so they asked "Has the EVER-LIVING spoken only with Moses? Has He not also spoken to us?" And the EVER-LIVING heard it. But the man Moses was very gentle, more so than any man on the face of the earth.

Then the EVER-LIVING spoke suddenly to Moses, and to Aaron, and to Miriam, "Go all three of you to the Hall of Assembly."

So all three went, and JEHOVAH descended in the form of the cloud and stood at the door of the Hall, and called Aaron and Miriam. Both of them accordingly went. When he

¹ Kibroth Hathavah.—F. F.

² Katzeroth, in Hebrew.—F. F.

- said to them, "Listen now to My words. If you are prophets of the EVER-LIVING look at ME. When I speak to you, it is a revelation in your dreams. It is not the same as with My servant Moses;—he is faithful in all My House. I speak face to face with him, and in visions, and he has not to seek the EVER-LIVING in enigmas and parables. Then why have you not regarded the message of My servant Moses?" And the anger of the EVER-LIVING burnt at them, and He departed.
- Then the cloud turned from above the Hall, and Miriam had become a leper as white as snow; and Aaron recoiled from Miriam now she was a leper, and Aaron said to Moses, "Pray to the ALMIGHTY so that HE may not lay upon us the sin which we attempted, and that we have committed. Let her not be like what comes dead from its mother's womb, —with half of its flesh consumed!"
- Therefore Moses cried to the EVER-LIVING, saying, "I pray GOD to cure her now."
- And the EVER-LIVING replied; "If her father had spit in her face would she not be disgraced for seven days? Let her be isolated for seven days outside the camp; and afterwards she may return."
- Miriam was therefore isolated outside the camp for seven days, and the people did not march until the return of Miriam, but the people marched afterwards, from the Green-fields,¹ and encamped in the Wilderness of Paran.

A Survey of Canan ordered.

- Then the EVER-LIVING spoke to Moses, commanding;
- "Send men and let them survey the land of Canan, which I will give to the children of Israel. You shall send a man from each tribe of their fathers,—all of them nobles."
- Moses consequently sent them from the Wilderness of Paran by command of the EVER-LIVING. All were nobles, chiefs of the children of Israel, and their names were these:—
- Of the tribe of Reuben, Shamna the son of Yikri;
- Of the tribe of Simeon, Shafat the son of Khori;

¹ Katzeroth, in Hebrew.—F. F.

- Of the tribe of Judah, Kaleb the 6 son of Jephunah;
- Of the tribe of Issakar, Izal the 7 son of Joseph;
- Of the tribe of Ephraim, Hoshea 8 the son of Nun;
- Of the tribe of Benjamin, Phalat 9 the son of Rafna;
- Of the tribe of Zebulon, Gadial the 10 son of Sodi;
- Of the tribe of Joseph—the tribe of 11 Manasseh, Gadi the son of Susi;
- Of the tribe of Dan, Amiel the son 12 of Gamali;
- Of the tribe of Assher, Sethor the 13 son of Mikal;
- Of the tribe of Naphthali, Nahbi 14 the son of Wafsi;
- Of the tribe of Gad, Ganal the son 15 of Makri;
- These were the names of the nobles 16 whom Moses sent to survey the land, and Moses surnamed Hoshea the son of Nun, Joshua.¹

Instructions to the Spies.

Moses then sent them to survey the land of Canan, and instructed them; "Go up from the south, and ascend to the hills and examine the land, what it is; and what its people are who inhabit it. Their strength, their weakness;—if they are few or many. And what kind of country it is they live in, whether it is good or bad; and what kind of cities they inhabit; with their camps and fortresses. Also examine the fertility of the land; if it is watered; if there are trees in it or not; and their size; you must also collect some of the fruit of the country, for it is the time of grape harvest."

They therefore went up, to survey the country from the Wilderness of Tzin to the plain that extends to Khamath.

Thus they ascended from the south as far as Hebron, where resided Akhiman, Shashai, and Thalmal, three children of Anak.² So they only went as far as the brook Eshkol, and decided to cut off a single branch of grapes from there, and carried it on a yoke between two.

¹ The Saviour, or Victor.—F. F.

² The parenthesis, v. 22, is apparently an editorial note, not part of the text of Moses.—F. F.

"(Hebron was built seven years before Zoan in Mitser—)"—F. F.

They also took pomegranates, and
24 figs; therefore they named that spot
the Brook of Grapes on account
of the grapes which they cut from
there for the sons of Israel.

25 There they turned back from sur-
veying the country at the end of forty
26 days, and marched and came to Moses
and Aaron, and all the chiefs of the
children of Israel, in the Wilderness of
Paran, at Kadish, and reported the
matter to them and all the Council,
and showed the fruit of the country,
27 and continued, and said;—

Report of the Spies.

"We have been to the country to
which you sent us, and it is indeed
flowing with milk and honey, and
28 this is its produce; however, the
people who inhabit the country are
strong, and their cities are very great
fortresses, and we saw the sons of
29 Anak there! Amalek inhabits the
south country, and the Hitites, and
the Jebusites, and the Amorites in-
habit the hills, and the Cananites
inhabit along the sea, and alongside
the Jordan."

30 But Kaleb had been silent before
the people and Moses. Now he said;
"Ascending let us go up and conquer
them, for we are able to do it!"

31 But the princes who went up with
him replied; "We are not able to
overpower those people, for they are
32 stronger than us!" And they brought
reports to the Children of Israel
about the country they had surveyed,
saying; "The country that we
travelled over to examine it, is a
country that devours its inhabitants;
and all the people whom we saw were
33 tall men; and we saw the Nephilim
there, sons of Anak, more than
giants, and we were in our own eyes
like locusts,—and we were like gnats
in theirs!"

14 Then all the Council arose and
gave out their votes. The people
also wept in that night; and
2 all the children of Israel com-
plained against Moses and against
Aaron. And all the Council asked;
"Which was better for us? to die in
the land of the Mitzeraim, or for us
3 to die here in this desert? And why
did the EVER-LIVING bring us to this
country to fall by the sword? Our
wives and our children will be
plunder. Is it not better for us to
return to Mitzer?"

Then every man said to his brother, 4
"Let us choose a leader and return
to the Mitzeraim."

But Moses and Aaron fell on their 5
faces before all the chiefs of the
children of Israel, and Joshua the 6
son of Nun, and Kaleb the son of
Jephunah, who had surveyed the
country tore their garments, and 7
addressed all the chiefs of the chil-
dren of Israel and said;—

"The country that we travelled
over to survey it, is a very, very good
land. If the EVER-LIVING is pleased 8
with us, and goes with us to this
country, He can give us this land
which flows with milk and honey.
Rebel not against the EVER-LIV- 9
ING! and fear not the people of the
country, for we can devour them,
throwing a shadow over them. Since
the LORD is with us, fear them not!"

All the Council threatened, how- 10
ever, to murder them with stones;
but the Glory of the EVER-LIVING
appeared in the Hall of Assembly to
all the children of Israel.

Then JEHOVAH said to Moses, 11
"How long shall I be despised by
this people? How long will they not
trust to Me, in spite of all the won-
ders I have effected for them? I 12
could strike them with a word and
destroy them, and could make from
yourself a nation mightier than they."

Moses, however, said to the EVER- 13
LIVING, "But when the Mitzerites
hear of it, from the midst of whom
You brought up this people by Your
Might, and the inhabitants of this 14
country hear, who have heard that
JEHOVAH is in the midst of this
People,—who eye to eye have seen
You are the EVER-LIVING,—and
Your cloud has stood over them,—
and with a perpetual cloud You have
marched before them by day, and
with a perpetual fire by night,—that 15
You have killed this People as a
single man,—then the heathen, who
have heard this report of You, will
say; 'Because JEHOVAH was not able 16
to bring this People to the country
that He swore to them, He has slain
them in the desert!' Consequently, 17
now, O! EVER-LIVING, increase
Your mercy, as You promised, say-
ing, 'I am the EVER-LIVING, slow 18
to anger, and of great mercy; for-
bearing towards passion and sin;
and not destroying the helpless;
punishing the fault of the fathers

upon their children to the third and
19 the fourth generation.' Forgive,
now, the passion of this people;—for
Your Mercy is great, and as You have
endured these people from Mitzer
until now."

20 Then the EVER-LIVING replied,
"I will forgive, as you request;—for
21 I LIVE FOR EVER, and the Majesty
of the EVER-LIVING will fill the
22 whole earth. However all the men
who have seen My Majesty, and the
wonders that I effected amongst the
Mitzeraim, and in the Wilderness,—
yet have revolted from Me these ten
times and not listened to My Voice,
23 —they shall not see the land which I
promised to their fathers,—that is,
all who despised Me, shall not see
24 it. But I except My servant Kaleb.
His spirit was steadfast in him, and
he was perfect after Me, therefore he
shall arrive at the country where he
went and his posterity shall inherit it."

The Israelites Retreat.

25 However, as the Amalekites and
the Cananites occupied the valley,
on the next day they turned face and
retreated from them towards the
Wilderness leading to the Sea of Suf.¹

Punishment for the Rebolt denounced.

26 There JEHOVAH spoke to Moses
and Aaron, saying;—
27 "For how long shall I hear the
complaints of this vile mob com-
plaining against Me? These com-
plaints of the children of Israel that
28 they murmur against Me? Say to
them, 'As I live, says JEHOVAH,
according to their demand to My
29 ears, I will do to them! In this
desert their corpses shall fall with
all their officers and rulers, from the
age of twenty years and upwards,
30 who complained against Me. They
shall not arrive at the country that I
raised My hand to lead them into,—
except Kaleb the son of Jephunah,
31 and Joshua the son of Nun. But
their children which they said would
be enslaved, I will bring in, and
they shall see the country which you
32 despised; but your corpses shall fall
33 in this desert, and your sons shall be

scattered in the desert forty years, for
you shall carry your whoredom until
your bodies sink in the desert. By 34
the number of the days when you
should have been examining the
country,—forty days,—a year for a
day, a year for a day, you shall carry
your crimes,—forty years. Thus shall
you recognize your rebellion. I, the 35
EVER-LIVING, have declared I will do
this, to all this vile mob, who revolted
against Me in this desert.—They shall
perish there.—They shall die! And 36
the men whom Moses sent to spy
the country, and who returned and
complained about it, the whole of that
band shall become dung upon the
earth! Those men shall die who 37
reported bad of the land, to fight
against the EVER-LIVING. Yet Joshua 38
the son of Nun, and Kaleb the son of
Jephunah, shall live from among those
who went to survey the country."

The Israelites Demand a Battle, but the Amalekites defeat Israel.

And Moses repeated these words 39
to all the children of Israel, and the
People mourned greatly. At the 40
morning, however, they arose to go
up to the top of the hill, crying,
"Here we are! Let us go up to the
place which the EVER-LIVING said,
—for we have sinned."

But Moses replied, "What is this? 41
You transgress the command of
JEHOVAH,—and He is not pleased.
You shall not go up;—for the EVER- 42
LIVING is not with you, so you will
be defeated before your enemies, for 43
the Amalekites and Cananites are
before you, and they will defeat you
by the sword, because you have
deserted from the EVER-LIVING, and
JEHOVAH is not with you."

They, however, arrogantly ascended 44
to the top of the hill; but the Ark of
the Covenant of the EVER-LIVING
and Moses did not move from the
camp.—So the Amalekites and the 45
Canaanites who were encamped upon
the hill, charged down and repulsed
them, and pursued them as far as the
valley.

The Talus of Sacrifices and Offerings.

Afterwards the EVER-LIVING spoke 15
to Moses commanding;—

"Speak to the children of Israel 2
and say to them;

¹ Red Sea: literally "The Sea of Weeds." Not the main sea, but only the shallows at the head of the Gulf of Suez, as the whole history seems to indicate.—F. F.

“ ‘When you come to your permanent country which I will give to you, and you make a gift to the EVER-LIVING,—a burnt-offering, or a sacrifice to fulfil a vow, or a free-will offering, or in your festivals to make a pleasant breath to the EVER-LIVING with an ox or a sheep, then approaching, present as your gift to the EVER-LIVING as a food-offering, a tenth of fine flour mixed with the fourth of a hin of oil, and of wine for a drink-offering you shall offer the fourth of a hin, with the burnt-offering, or the sacrifice of a single lamb. Or with a ram, you shall offer as a food-offering a twelfth of fine flour mixed with the third of a hin of oil, and the third part of a hin of wine for a drink-offering, presented as a pleasing breath to the LORD.

“ ‘And when you offer a bullock as a burnt-offering, or a sacrifice to fulfil a vow, or as a thank-offering to the EVER-LIVING, you shall offer with the bullock, as a food-offering, three tenths of fine flour mixed with half a hin of oil; and as a drink-offering, present half a hin of wine as a gift of pleasant breath to JEHOVAH.

“ ‘And the same shall be done with each ox, each ram, each lamb of the sheep, or goats. According to the number which are offered, this shall be done, with each one of the number. Make every presentation in the same way as these, to offer a pleasing breath to the EVER-LIVING. And whatever stranger resides with you, or is settled among your posterity, when he makes an offering of a pleasing breath to the EVER-LIVING, he shall do the same as you do. It is a common Institution alike for you and the foreigner who resides with you. It is a perpetual Institution for your posterity, both for you and the foreigner before JEHOVAH. There shall be one law, and one rule for yourselves and for the foreigners residing with you.”

Law of Harvest-home Offerings.

The EVER-LIVING also spoke to Moses commanding;—
“ ‘Speak to the children of Israel and say to them; ‘When you arrive at the country where I will bring you, and eat of the bread of the land, you shall lift it up before the EVER-LIVING. You shall lift up the first

cake from the dough the same as you hold up of your grain;—so shall you hold it up. You must give the first of your grindings to the EVER-LIVING as a lift-offering from your produce.

Offerings for National Sins.

“ ‘But if you wander from, and do not practise all these commands which JEHOVAH has dictated to Moses; all that the EVER-LIVING has commanded to you by the medium of Moses, from the day when the LORD commanded them, to your furthest posterity; or if your Parliament should inadvertently commit an error, then all your Parliament shall offer a bull from the herd as a burnt-offering, for a pleasant breath to the EVER-LIVING; with its food-offering and drink-offering, as decreed, and a ram of the goats for a sin-offering; and the priest shall expiate for all the Parliament of the children of Israel, and forgive them their fault, when they bring the offering to present to JEHOVAH, and make a sin-offering for their fault.

Offerings for Personal Faults.

“ ‘But if an individual commits a fault, then he shall present a she-goat of a year old as a sin-offering; and the priest shall expiate for that person for the fault he has inadvertently committed, before the EVER-LIVING. He shall expiate for it, and shall pardon him for it. There is one law for the native of the children of Israel, and for the foreigners among them, for you to observe regarding faultiness. But the person who acts with a wicked hand, whether a native or a foreigner, in contempt of the EVER-LIVING,—that person shall be excommunicated from among his people. For he has despised the command of the LORD and broken His decree, by his sin.”

The Law of Sabbath-breaking.

While the children of Israel were in the Wilderness, they found a man collecting sticks on the Sabbath day, and those who found him gathering sticks presented him to Moses and Aaron and to all the Parliament, who put him under guard, for they could not decide what to do with him. But the EVER-LIVING said to Moses;—

“ ‘The man must die! Let all the

Assembly kill him with stones outside the camp."

- 36 The whole Assembly, therefore, took him outside the camp and killed him with stones;—so he died as the EVER-LIVING had commanded to Moses.

Israel ordered to make Fringes.

- 37 The EVER-LIVING also spoke to Moses, commanding;—
38 "Speak to the children of Israel and say to them; Make fringes upon the borders of your clothing always, and place above the fringes cords of
39 purple, so that the fringes may be like flowers for you to remember the commands of the EVER-LIVING by, and to practise them, and that you may not wander after your hearts, and after your eyes, as you have wandered after them, but, instead, that you may remember and practise all
40 My commands, and live holily to your
41 GOD. I am your EVER-LIVING GOD, Who brought you from the land of the Mitzeraim to be your GOD. I am the EVER-LIVING GOD."

The Revolt of Korah.

- 16 Korah, the son of Itzhar, the son of Kahath, the descendant of Levi, and Dathan and Abiram, sons of Aliab, and Ann, the son of Pelath, the son of
2 Reuben, conspired and stood up to resist Moses, with a hundred and fifty others of the princes of the Parliament of the children of Israel,
3 titled nobles of the nation; and they addressed Moses and Aaron and said to them;

"You assume too much to yourselves;—for all the Parliament, all of them, are sacred, and the EVER-LIVING is among them."

- 4 When Moses heard it, he bowed his
5 head, and spoke to Korah and all his band, saying;

- "In the morning JEHOVAH will make known who are His, and sacred; and who are to approach to Him, and whom He has chosen to approach to
6 Himself. Let Korah and all his band
7 take bowls for themselves, and put fire and sweet incense into them, and the men whom JEHOVAH chooses shall be the Sacred. You are presumptuous, sons of Levi." And Moses
8 continued to Korah, "Listen, now,
9 sons of Levi. Was it too little for you that the GOD of Israel appointed you from among the families of Israel, to approach to Him, to perform the

services of the sanctuary of the EVER-LIVING, and to stand before the congregation to minister, and included you and all your brothers with you,—but would you demand the Priesthood also? However, you, and
11 all your associates, station yourselves before the EVER-LIVING together with Aaron.—What is he that you should murmur against him?"

Then Moses sent to summons
12 Dathan and Abiram, the sons of Aliab, but they would not come, but replied—

"We will not come! Is it nothing
13 that you have brought us up out of a land flowing with milk and honey to kill us in this desert,—that you would dominate over us as a tyrant? You
14 have brought us to no land flowing with milk and honey! nor given us farms and vineyards to possess! Would you dig out the eyes of these men? We will not come!"

Moses was very angry at this and
15 said to JEHOVAH; "I have not taken as a gift even an ass from them, and I have not wronged one of them."

Then Moses said to Korah, "Let
16 you and all your associates come before the EVER-LIVING,—you, and they, and Aaron to-morrow; and let
17 each take a censer and put on it incense, and present it before the EVER-LIVING,—each of the hundred and fifty, a censer; and you and Aaron, each a censer."

So each took his censer; and they
18 put fire in their censers, and offered incense upon it, and stationed themselves at the door of the Hall of Assembly, with Moses and Aaron. Korah also collected all his asso-
19 ciates with himself at the door of the Hall of Assembly, and the Glory of the EVER-LIVING appeared to all the congregation.

But the EVER-LIVING spoke to
20 Moses and to Aaron saying, "You shall be magnified in the midst of this Assembly,—but I will consume them
21 with might!"

They however fell upon their faces
22 and said, "GOD, the GOD giving life to all flesh! one man only has sinned,—and will you be angry with all the Parliament?"

Destruction of Korah, Dathan, and Abiram.

Then the EVER-LIVING spoke
23 to Moses, saying; "Speak to the 24

Parliament and command them to run out from around the tents of Korah, Dathan, and Abiram."

- 25 Moses therefore arose, and went to Dathan and Abiram, and the Judges
26 of Israel went after him, and they spoke to the Parliament saying; "Remove from the halls of these depraved men, and touch nothing belonging to them, for fear you should
27 share in their sin." Consequently they came away from the tents of Dathan and Abiram; but Dathan and Abiram came and stood at the opening of their tents, with their wives and
28 children, and infants. Then Moses spoke and said;—
"You shall learn by this whether JEHOVAH has sent me to do all these things; for I have not done them by
29 myself;—if these die as all men die, and the fate of all men falls upon them, then the EVER-LIVING has not
30 sent me. But if JEHOVAH prepares it, and the earth opens her mouth and swallows them, and all who are with them, and they go down alive to the grave,—then you will know that the EVER-LIVING has rejected these men."

- 31 And it occurred that as he finished speaking these words, the ground
32 split under them, and the earth opened her mouth and swallowed them and their homes, and all the men who were with Korah, and all
33 their wealth; and they, and all who were with them, rushed down alive into the grave, and the earth closed over them, and they perished in the
34 midst of the public. Then all Israel who were around them fled with a shriek; for they said, "The earth
35 may swallow us also." Fire also came out from JEHOVAH and consumed the hundred and fifty men as they offered incense.

- 17 The EVER-LIVING then spoke to
2 Moses saying; "Command Aliazar the son of Aaron the priest, to collect the censers from among the burnt people, and the fire, for they are sacred.

- 3 "The censers of these sinners are for their lives, and you shall make of them thin spread plates for the altar, for they have been presented before the EVER-LIVING and are sacred, and they shall be warnings to the children
4 of Israel." (Aliazar, the priest, subsequently took the censers of brass which the burnt persons presented,

and made plates of them for the altar.) "And the children of Israel 5 shall remember the reason why a strange man, who is not of the family of Aaron, may not approach to offer incense before the EVER-LIVING, so that he may not be like Korah; and that they may know that JEHOVAH has spoken by the medium of Moses."

The Parliament and the Crowd Mutiny.

But all the Parliament of the chil- 6 dren of Israel murmured against Moses and Aaron next day, exclaiming;—"You have killed the People of the EVER-LIVING!"

But when the Parliament collected 7 against Moses and Aaron, they retreated to the Hall of Assembly, and then the cloud descended, and the Glory of the EVER-LIVING appeared, so Moses and Aaron came into the 8 front of the Hall of Assembly, and 9 JEHOVAH spoke to Moses, saying;—

"Rise up from the midst of this 10 crowd and I will consume them with might."

But they fell on their faces and 11 Moses said to Aaron, "Take you a censer, and put fire into it from off the altar, and place incense, and go quickly and make an expiation for them, because anger is coming from the EVER-LIVING to strike the profane."

So Aaron did as Moses commanded, 12 and rushed into the midst of the meeting, where the stroke of destruction was on the People, and offered incense and expiated for the nation, and stood between the living and the 13 dead;—and the stroke was arrested. But the dead from the stroke were 14 fourteen thousand seven hundred, besides those who died over the affair of Korah. Then Aaron returned to 15 Moses to the opening of the Hall of Assembly, and the stroke was arrested.

Tribal Staves ordered to be taken away.

The EVER-LIVING also spoke to 16 Moses, commanding;—

"Speak to the children of Israel 17 and take the staves from each of their tribes. The staff from each ancestral house; from each chief of an ancestral house.—Twelve staves; and record the name of each upon his staff. And record the name of 18

Aaron upon the staff of the tribe of Levi. Thus there shall be a staff from the head of each ancestral house; and place them in the Hall of Assembly with the Witnesses as an evidence for them there. And the staff of the man I may choose shall blossom. Thus I will exclude the complaints of the children of Israel from Me."

21 Moses accordingly spoke to the children of Israel, and each of the princes gave him their staff,—each prince a staff,—each prince of an ancestral house of the twelve tribes. But the staff of Aaron was placed in the middle of the other staves.

22 Afterwards Moses presented the staves before the presence of the EVER-LIVING in the Hall of Assembly.

23 And when Moses came next day to the Tabernacle of the Witnesses, the staff of Aaron had budded and blossomed for the House of Levi! Buds had also come out, and borne flowers,

24 and ripened into almonds. Moses therefore brought out all the staves from the presence of the EVER-LIVING to all the children of Israel, and they examined them, each man taking his own staff!

25 Then the EVER-LIVING said to Moses, "Return the staff of Aaron to the presence of the Witnesses, to keep it as an evidence to the Sons of Disobedience, and let them stop their complaints against Me, that they may not die."

26 Moses consequently did as the EVER-LIVING commanded him. He did it.

The People decree Death to all who attempt to enter the Sanctuary.

27 The children of Israel after that spoke to Moses saying;—"We perceive that we shall expire; we shall perish, all of us will perish. Let all who approach to the sanctuary of the EVER-LIVING be killed, so that we may not all expire."

18 Then the EVER-LIVING commanded Aaron "You and your sons, and the house of your father with you, shall carry the spirit of consecration; and you and your sons with you shall carry the spirit of the priesthood, and your brothers of the tribe of Levi, of the standard of your father, shall also approach with you and attend upon you, and guard you,

and your sons with you, before the Tabernacle of the Witnesses. And 3 they shall guard you, and guard all the Hall, together with the sacred furniture. But they shall not approach to the altar, for fear they, as well as you, should die; but they 4 shall attend upon you and guard in watches the Hall of Assembly and all the services of the Hall, and a foreigner shall not approach with them. By them also the holy things 5 shall be guarded, and the altar be guarded so that anger may never come upon the children of Israel. For I have taken to Myself your 6 brothers of Levi from among the children of Israel, to give them as gifts to the EVER-LIVING, to perform the services of the Hall of Assembly. But you and your sons with you 7 shall guard the priesthood, and all the matters of the altar, and of the House of the Veils, and perform the services prescribed for the priesthood. And the stranger who approaches shall die."

Confirmation of Endowments for the Priesthood.

The EVER-LIVING also said to 8 Aaron "And I, see, I have given to you the guardianship of My High Things, and of all the sacred things of the children of Israel;—I have given them to you and to your sons to consecrate, and to preserve for ever.

"These shall be yours from the 9 sacred offerings;—all the gifts offered by fire; all food-offerings, and sin-offerings; and all the presents which they make to Me. They are consecrated strictly to you, and to your sons. You shall eat them in the 10 sanctuary. Every male may eat of them with you. They shall be sacred to you. You shall also take some- 11 thing from all the wave-offerings of the children of Israel for yourself and your sons, and for your daughters with you, as a perpetual Institution. All the clean in your house may eat of them.

"All the melted fat, and the best of 12 the vintage, and the first of the corn which they present to the EVER-LIVING are given to you. The first 13 fruits of all that their land produces which they bring to the EVER-LIVING, shall be yours. All who are clean in

- 14 your houses may eat of them. Every convict in Israel shall be yours.
- 15 Every thing bursting the womb of any species which they offer to the EVER-LIVING, whether of man or beast, shall be yours; but you must set free for a ransom the firstborn of man, and the firstborn of cattle you shall free for a sin-offering; and they shall be ransomed at a month old, at a valuation of five shekels of silver by the sacred shekel.¹
- 17 "You shall not, however, ransom the firstborn of a cow, or the firstborn of a sheep, or the firstborn of a goat, they are sacred; their blood is to be poured out on the altar, and their fat is to be burnt as an offering of pleasant perfume to the EVER-LIVING. But of their flesh, the breast shall be yours, for waving it, and the right leg shall be yours. All the exalted offerings of the sanctuaries, which the children of Israel lift up to the EVER-LIVING, I give to you, and to your sons with you, as a perpetual Institution. It is a covenant of salt for ever before the EVER-LIVING for you and your posterity after you."

Endowments of the National Church.

- 20 The EVER-LIVING also said to Aaron, "You shall have no possession in the land, and there shall be no portion for you in it. I am your portion and inheritance among the children of Israel.
- 21 "But to the sons of Levi I give all the tithe of Israel for an inheritance, in payment for the work they perform in the services of the Hall of Assembly, and if ever the children of Israel offer a sacrifice in the Hall of Assembly, they shall bear the sin to death; because the work of Levi is in the Hall of Assembly, and they shall bear its burden, as a perpetual Institution, for your posterity. Therefore they have no inheritance among the children of Israel, for the tithes of the children of Israel which they bring to lift up and present to the EVER-LIVING I give to the Levites as an inheritance; therefore I have said to them, you shall hold no inheritance among the children of Israel."

¹ V. 16. "It is ten grains" is an ancient editor's note.—F. F.

"(It is ten grains.)"

The Duties of the Levites.

The EVER-LIVING also spoke to 25 Moses, commanding;—

"Speak to the Levites and say to them,

"Since I have taken you from the 26 children of Israel, the tithe which I have given to you from them as your inheritance,—you shall present from it as a present to the EVER-LIVING, —a tenth of the tithe with which they are tithed, for your account. 27 You shall also lift up some of the grain from the corn, and a portion from the grapes. Thus you shall 28 present presentations to the EVER-LIVING, from all the tithes which are taken from the children of Israel; and give a part of those presentations to the EVER-LIVING, to Aaron the Priest. From all the presentations 29 presented to the EVER-LIVING, present a part of all the best that is consecrated for you.

"You shall therefore command 30 them,¹ when presenting the fat, to account some of it as for the Levites, like the offerings of corn, and the offerings of grapes; and they may eat 31 them in any of their villages, and houses, as their wages on account of their work in the Hall of Assembly, and they will not be committing sin 32 by taking away the fat, and the offerings of the children of Israel. They do no wrong, and they shall not die."

The National Sacrifice for Sin.

The EVER-LIVING also spoke to 19 Moses, commanding;—

"The following is a constitutional 2 law which JEHOVAH commands, saying;—Command the children of Israel to select for you a red heifer, perfect, and who has not a spot upon her, which has never been under a yoke. Let them 3 bring it to Aliazar the priest, and he shall take her outside the camp and slay her in their presence. Then 4 Aliazar the priest shall take some of her blood on his finger, and sprinkle the front of the Hall of Assembly seven times with the blood, and burn 5 the heifer in their sight with its skin, and flesh, and its dung. He shall burn it to dissolution. Then the 6 priest shall take cedar and hyssop

¹ V. 30. The "them" here clearly refers to the Nation or Offerers, not to the Levites. If this is not borne in mind the passage seems contradictory.—F. F.

wood, and scarlet wool, and ashes from among the cinders of the heifer.

7 "The priest shall then change his clothing, and wash his body with water, and afterwards return into the camp. But the priest shall be

8 unclean until the evening. Those who burnt her also shall change their clothes, and wash their bodies in water, and be unclean until the evening.

9 "Afterwards a clean man shall remove the ashes of the heifer and place them outside the camp in a clean place, and they shall be as a witness to the children of Israel to keep themselves from the impurity of sin.

10 "Then the remover of the ashes of the heifer shall strip off his clothes, and be unclean until the evening.

The Law against Contagion by a Corpse.

"This also shall be a perpetual Institution to the children of Israel, and to the foreigners who reside

11 among them, that whoever touches the corpse of a man shall be unclean

12 for seven days. If he offers a sin-offering on the third day, then he shall be clean on the seventh day: but if he does not offer a sin-offering on the third day he shall not be clean on the seventh.

13 "Whoever touches a corpse,—the body of a man who died,—and does not make a sin-offering at the sanctuary of the EVER-LIVING, is defiled; and that person shall be excommunicated from Israel, because he has not washed the filth from off himself with water; he shall be unclean while the impurity is on him.

Sanitary Laws about Deaths.

14 "These are the laws about persons who have died in a dwelling. All who come to the dwelling, and all who are in the dwelling are unclean for

15 seven days. Every vessel, also, which is open, unless there is a lid upon the

16 opening, is defiled. And whoever touches a man killed in fight, or the bones of a man, or killed accidentally,

17 shall be defiled for seven days. You shall consequently take to the defiled person some of the ashes of the fires of sin-offerings, and put them on

18 living water, in a cup, and take hyssop and dabble with the water the

man who is to be purified, and sprinkle it upon the dwelling and over all the furniture, and over all the persons who may be there, and over the man who has touched the bones, or the slain, or the dead by accident, and 19 sprinkle the purification upon the defiled at the third day, and upon the seventh day, and make a sin-offering for him upon the seventh day, and he shall change his clothes and bathe in water, when he shall be purified at evening. But the man who is 20 defiled, and does not offer a sin-offering, that person shall be excluded from the entry into the Holy Assembly of the EVER-LIVING. The defiled not having washed his filth from off him, is unclean. Therefore this shall 21 be a perpetual Institution to you; and for this reason the filthy shall change their clothes, and who touches anything filthy shall be unclean until the evening; and all that touches 22 him who is unclean, shall be unclean, and the person he touches shall be unclean until the evening."

March to the Wilderness of Tzin.

All the congregation of the children 20 of Israel afterwards marched to the Wilderness of Tzin, in the first month, and settled in Kadesh. Now Miriam died there, and they buried her there. However water was deficient for the 2 nation, so they appealed to Moses 3 and Aaron, and the people disputed with Moses, and, complaining, they said;—"Oh that expiring we could die before the LORD! And why has 4 the LORD brought the congregation to this Wilderness,—we and our cattle? And why did He bring us up 5 from Mitzer to conduct us to this vile place? It is not a place of vegetables, and figs, and cucumbers, and pomegranates! and there is no water to drink!"

Moses and Aaron therefore went 6 before the crowd at the opening of the Hall of Assembly, and fell on their faces, and the Majesty of the EVER-LIVING appeared over them.

The Waters of Strife: Water brought from the Rock.

Then the EVER-LIVING spoke to 7 Moses, commanding;—

"Take your staff, and convoke the 8 Parliament,—you and your brother Aaron,—and command the rock in

their sight, and it will give them water; and bring out water for them from the rock, and quench the thirst of the people and their cattle."

- 9 Moses therefore took his staff from the presence of the EVER-LIVING, as he was commanded; and Moses and Aaron addressed the crowd before the rock, and said to them;

"Listen now you rebels! out of this very rock water shall come for you."

- 11 Then Moses raised his hand, and struck the rock with his staff twice, and a rush of water came out, and quenched the thirst of the people and of their cattle.

- 12 But the EVER-LIVING said to Moses and Aaron;—"Because you have not been true to Me, to consecrate Me in the sight of the children of Israel,—you shall not bring this People into the land which I will give them."

- 13 These were the Waters of Strife,¹—where the children of Israel strove with the EVER-LIVING. But He was sanctified at them.

The King of Edom asked to Allow Israel to Pass.

- 14 Moses afterwards sent messengers from Kadesh to the Commander of Edom, to say;—

- "Thus says your brother Israel, you know all the labours that we have met. How our fathers went down to the Mitzeraim and resided in Mitzer many days, and how the Mitzerites ill-treated our fathers. But we appealed to the EVER-LIVING and He heard our voice, and sent a messenger, and brought us from among the Mitzerites, and now we are at Kadesh a village at the edge of your borders.
- 17 Let us now pass through your country. We will not pass through farms and vineyards. We will not drink of water from the wells, but travel upon the Travelling Highway. We will not delay in our march nor extend to the right or the left when we cross your boundaries."

- 18 But Edom replied to him; "You shall not pass through me,—or I will advance with the sword, and fight you."

- 19 Then Israel answered;—"I will go up by the mountain road, and if I

drink water I will buy it, and I will give a price for biscuits. Nothing shall stick to my feet as I pass over."

But he replied; "You shall not pass through!" And Edom came out to fight with the People grievously, and with a strong hand. Thus Edom refused to give Israel a passage through his boundaries. So Israel turned away from them.

March to the Highlands.

Then the children of Israel marched, all the nation, to the peak of the Highlands, where the EVER-LIVING said to Moses and Aaron in the Highlands, on the borders of the land of Edom;—

Death of Aaron.

"Aaron shall be added to his people, because he shall not arrive at the land which I will give to the children of Israel, because you did not exalt My Presence at the Waters of Strife. Take Aaron and his son Aliazar, and ascend with them the Peak of the Highlands, where Aaron shall take off his robes, and you shall put them upon Aliazar his son. And afterwards Aaron shall die there."

Moses consequently did as the EVER-LIVING commanded, and ascended the Peak of the Highlands, in the sight of all the People. Then Moses stripped Aaron of his robes, and clothed Aliazar his son with them, and Aaron died there on the top of the Peak. Then Moses and Aliazar came down from the Peak.

And all the People saw the death of Aaron, all the house of Israel; so they wept for Aaron thirty days.

The Cananites of Arad attack Israel.

When the Cananites of the kingdom of Arad, who occupied the south, heard that Israel was coming by the road of the Atharim, they fought with Israel, and took some of them prisoners. Then Israel waved a vow to the EVER-LIVING, and said;—

"If you will give this people to my hand, then I will destroy their towns."

And the EVER-LIVING listened to the voice of Israel, and gave them the Cananites; so they destroyed them and their towns, and named the district Destruction.

¹ V. 13. Mei Meribah = "Waters of Strife."
—F. F.

Retreat towards the Sea of Weeds.

- 4 Then they marched from the Peak of the Highlands towards the Sea of Weeds, and skirted the land of Edom, but the retreat depressed the spirit of the People, so the People spoke against GOD, and against Moses,—“Why have you brought us up from the Mitzeraim to die in a desert, where there is neither bread, nor water, and our spirits depressed by this vile food?” The LORD therefore sent to the People inflammatory serpents, who stung the People, and a great number of the people of Israel died.

- 7 Then the People came to Moses and said, “We have sinned; because we have spoken against the EVER-LIVING and against you. Pray to JEHOVAH that He may send the serpents away from us.”

- 8 So Moses prayed on account of the People. Then the EVER-LIVING said to Moses, “Make for yourself a Fiery Serpent, and put it up as a standard, —and it shall be that when anyone is stung, he can look upon it and live.”

The Brazen Serpent made.

- 9 Then Moses made a serpent of brass, and set it up as a standard, and when anyone was stung by a serpent and looked upon that serpent of brass, he lived.

The March to Aboth and Ain.

- 10 The children of Israel afterwards marched, and encamped in Aboth.
- 11 Then they marched to Aye-on-the-fords, in the desert which is facing Moab, away from the rising sun.¹
- 12 From there they marched and encamped at the brook of Arad, From there they marched and encamped at the ford of Arnon which is in the desert that extends as a boundary for the Amorites; for the Arnon was the boundary between Moab and the
- 14 Amorites. As it is said in “The Book of the Wars of the Lord”:² “At Suf he was parched, and the gorges of Arnon,
- 15 The cliffs that lean down from the dwellings of Ar, And slope to the boundary of Moab.

¹ Note, V. 11. That is, upon the western side of Moab.—F. F.

² Note. I think the last clause of verse 13, and on to the end of verse 16, is an explanatory note of a copyist of a later time, and not part of the diary of Moses.—F. F.

And from there to the Well.” 16

This is the Well where the EVER-LIVING said to Moses, “Let the people rest, and provide them water.”

Then Israel sang this song, 17

Song at the Well.

“Spring up Well to refresh us;—
Dug by rejoicing princes; 18

By the People's Chiefs and
Ruler;—

A refreshing gift in the Desert!
And a gift from the rivers of GOD, 19
From the rivers of GOD in the hills.

From the heights it passed to the 20
valley;
To Moab's plain from the Peak
of Pisgah,
And clothed the face of the
waste!”¹

Ambassadors sent to Sihon.

Then Israel sent ambassadors to 21
Sihon, king of the Amorites, saying;—

Request to March through Ammon,

“I wish to pass through your 22
country. I will not extend into the
farms and vineyards. I will not
drink water from the wells, and I will
march on the Traveller's Highway

¹ Note upon verses 18—20. Part of v. 18 and all verses 19, 20 are in A.V., and R.V., translated as a description of marches, not as I do, as a part of the “Song at the Well.” But to take those verses as geographical names is a clear contradiction to the context, which states that the Israelite army was on the borders of Moab and the Amorites, waiting for permission to pass over, not five marches—100 miles—from there; as five marches in Oriental reckoning would have been. Therefore I read them as a part of the song of thanksgiving for finding the well after the long waterless marches.

However, I here add the usual version of the verses as translated in a jargon of Hebrew and English, for those who prefer it.

A.V. Ch. xxi., v. 18 (part of) to 20: “And from the Wilderness they went to Mattanah: and from Mattanah to Nahaliel: and from Nahaliel to Bamoth: and from Bamoth in the valley, that is in the country of Moab, to the top of Pisgah, which looketh towards Jeshimon.”

To further prove that verses 18 to 20 are a part of the Song of the Well, and not a series of geographical names, consult Ch. xxxiii., vv. 47—50, where in the Way-book of the Marchings no mention is made of any such places or journeys, as all former translators make the verses above seem to be.—F. F.

only, until I have passed over your boundaries."

Sihon Refuses and the Amorites are Defeated.

- 23 But Sihon would not allow Israel to pass over his borders; so Sihon collected all his forces and advanced to attack Israel in the desert. When he arrived at Yatz, he fought with
24 Israel, but Israel defeated him by the sword, and seized the country from the Arnon as far as the Jabok, from the sons of Ammon,—for that is the
25 boundary of the Amorites. The Israelites also captured all the cities—Israel occupied all the villages of the Amorites,—with Heshbon and all its villages; for Heshbon was the
26 capital of Sihon, the king of the Amorites, for formerly he had a war with the king of Moab, and took the whole of his country from his possession as far as the Arnon. Therefore
27 the poets say;—

- "Bring straw to Heshbon,
And build a city for Sihon,
28 For a fire coming from Heshbon,
A flame from the palace of Sihon,
Has burnt up Ar of Moab,
Going up to the cliffs of Arnon!
29 Alas! for you, Moab, the people of Kemosh!
Your sons are given to flight,
And your girls as slaves to Sihon the Amorite king;
30 And the archers destroy from Heshbon to Dibon,
And waste from Noph as far as to Midba!
31 Thus Israel occupied the country of the Amorites.

Iazer Captured.

- 32 Moses then sent infantry to Iazer, who captured it and its villages, and they drove out the Amorites who were
33 there. Then they turned and ascended by the road from Heshbon, when Og, king of Bashan advanced to attack them, he and all his forces, in the battle of Adrai.
34 But the EVER-LIVING said to Moses;—"Fear him not! For I will give him into your hand,—him and all his People, and his country; and you shall do to him as you did to Sihon, king of the Amorites, who resided in
35 Heshbon." They consequently defeated him, and his sons, and all his

forces, until there was not a detachment left to him, and they seized his country.

Then the children of Israel marched 22 and encamped again at the fords of Moab, at the ford of the Torrent, opposite Jerikho.

Balak sends for Balaam.

When Balak the son of Tzifor saw all 2 that Israel had done to the Amorites, Moab was greatly terrified at the 3 presence of the People,—for they were many,—and Moab was startled at the sight of the children of Israel. Therefore Moab said to the judges of 4 Midian, "Now this Crowd is licking up all round about us, like a bullock licks up the grass of the field!" So Balak the son of Tzifor, the king of Moab, was terrified. Consequently 5 he sent ambassadors to Balaam the son of Beor, of Pethor, which is by the river of the land of the sons of Amo, to invite him, saying;—

The Letter to Balaam.

"A nation has come out from the Mitzeraim and covers the face of the country, and it occupies my borders. So, now, I pray you to come and 6 curse this People for me, for it is stronger than mine, so that I may be able to defeat and drive it from the country; for I know that whoever you bless is lucky, and whoever you curse is unfortunate!"

The princes of Moab consequently 7 went, with the princes of Midian, with presents in their hands, and came to Balaam, and gave him the message of Balak, and he replied, 8 "Stay here to-night, and I will return to you the answer that the EVER-LIVING dictates to me." So the princes of Moab stayed with Balaam.

But a Divine Messenger came to 9 Balaam and asked, "Who are these men with you?"

And Balaam replied, "Balak the 10 son of Tzifor, king of Moab, has sent to me, 'There is a People that has 11 come from Mitzer and it covers the face of the country. Now come, curse it for me, so that I may be able to fight with, and drive it away!'"

Then the Messenger replied to 12 Balaam, "You must not go with them, nor curse this People—for it is blessed."

13 Balaam therefore arose in the morning, and said to the princes of Balak, "Return to your own country, for the EVER-LIVING refuses to allow me to go with you!" So the princes of Moab arose and went to Balak, and said, "Balaam refused to come with us!"

15 However Balak proceeded to send again more princes, and of higher rank than the former, and they came to Balaam and said to him; "Balak the son of Tzifor says thus;—'Do not refuse, I pray you, to come to me, for I will honour you very greatly, and whatever you demand of me I will do; only come, I entreat you, to curse this People for me!'"

18 But Balaam replied and said; "If Balak would give to me his palace full of silver and gold, I should not be able to pass beyond the command of the EVER-LIVING GOD, to do little or much. But yet rest yourselves, I beg, here to-night, and I will learn what the EVER-LIVING may say again to me."

20 A Divine Messenger then came to Balaam at night and said to him, "If these men invite you, arise, go with them. But you shall execute the command that I shall command you!"

21 Therefore Balaam arose at day-break, and saddled his ass, and went with the princes of Moab. But GOD was angry because he went, and placed a Messenger of the EVER-LIVING in the path to oppose him as he rode on his ass, and the two youths

23 with him, and the ass saw the Messenger of JEHOVAH stationed in the path with a drawn sword in his hand; so the ass turned out of the path and went on to the field. But Balaam struck the ass to turn her into the path. Then the Messenger of JEHOVAH placed himself in the hollow path of a vineyard, with a wall on both sides. But the ass saw the Messenger of JEHOVAH and she pressed against the wall, and squeezed the leg of Balaam against the wall, and refused to go forward. Then the Messenger of JEHOVAH passed on, and stationed himself in a narrow place where there was no room to turn to the right or to the left. But the ass saw the Messenger of JEHOVAH, and crouched down under Balaam. And Balaam was furious, and struck the

28 ass with his stick. Then the EVER-

LIVING opened the mouth of the ass, and she said to Balaam "What have I done to you, that you have struck me these three times?"

But Balaam answered the ass;— 29 "Because you have vexed me! I wish there were a sword handy to me, that I might kill you on the spot!"

The ass, however, replied to Balaam, 30 "Am I not your own ass, upon whom you have ridden from the day I was yours? Have I been accustomed to do this to you?" And he answered "No."

Then JEHOVAH opened the eyes of 31 Balaam, and he also saw the Messenger of the EVER-LIVING standing in the path, with a drawn sword in his hand. And he bowed and made reverence before him.

But the Messenger of the EVER- 32 LIVING said to him, "Why have you struck your ass these three times? I was sent to oppose you, for your conduct is perverse before me, and 33 the ass saw me, and turned from my face these three times. If she had not turned away from me, I should most certainly have struck and slain you, but yet preserved her alive."

Then Balaam said to the Messenger 34 of JEHOVAH, "I have sinned! But I did not know that you stood to meet me in the path. Yet now if I am wrong in your sight I will return home?"

The Messenger of the EVER-LIVING, 35 however, replied to Balaam, "Go with these men;—but except the words that I shall command you, utter nothing." So Balaam went with the princes of Balak.

When Balak heard that Balaam 36 was coming, he went out to meet him to Ar of Moab, which is on the banks of the Arnon where his border ends, and Balak said to Balaam; 37 "Did I not send to you to invite you? Why did you not come to me? Am I not quite able to honour you?"

But Balaam answered Balak;— 38 "Although I have come to you, I am not now able to speak a word except what the EVER-LIVING puts into my mouth! That I must utter!"

The First Sacrifice of Balak and Balaam.

Then Balaam walked with Balak, and they went into the Palace

39 gardens, where Balak sacrificed an ox and a sheep, and sent them to Balaam, and to the princes who were with him. But in the morning Balak took Balaam, and ascended the tower of Bal, and showed from there the whole mass of the People.

23 Then Balaam said to Balak; "Build for me here seven altars, and prepare for me here seven bullocks and seven rams."

2 Balak accordingly did as Balaam said, and Balak and Balaam offered up a bullock and a ram on each altar.

3 Then Balaam said to Balak; "Stand here by your offerings, and I will go yonder to meet the EVER-LIVING to inquire; and whatever He may show me I will report to you."

4 So he went to a cliff, where Balaam met GOD and said to Him; "I have built seven altars, and offered a bullock and a ram on each altar."

5 The EVER-LIVING then put a speech into the mouth of Balaam, and said;—"Return to Balak and say thus;—"

6 So he returned to Balak, who stood by his offerings;—he, and all the Princes of Moab, and he there began his poem and said;—

Balaam's Prophecy.

BALAAM. "From Aram, Balak, Moab's king brought me,—
From the hills of the East I have come."

BALAK. "Curse for me Jacob; insult for me Israel!"

BALAAM. "How can I curse, whom GOD has not cursed?"

8 How can I insult, whom JEHOVAH insults not?

9 Whom I see from the top of the rocks,
And from the hills I survey him—
A People dwelling alone,
And not mixed up with the nations!—

10 Who can number the dust of Jacob?
Who can count Israel's increase?
Let my life die the death of the righteous!
Let my last days be like to his!"

11 Then Balak exclaimed to Balaam, "What have you done for me? I instructed you to curse my enemies! And yet you have blessed them!"

But he answered and said, "Was it not what the EVER-LIVING put into my mouth?—I was obliged to speak it!"

Balak, however, answered him, 13 "Come, then, with me to another place, where you can look and only see a part of the encampment, and not survey the whole;—and curse them from there!"

The Second Sacrifice of Balak and Balaam.

So he took him to the Field of 14 Towers, at the top of Pisgah, and built seven altars, and offered a bullock and a ram on each altar. Then he said to Balak, "Stand here 15 by the offerings and I will go yonder." And the EVER-LIVING met Balaam 16 and put a speech in his mouth, and said, "Return to Balak and say thus;—" So he went to him, 17 and found him standing by his offerings, and the princes of Moab with him, and Balak asked him, "What does the EVER-LIVING command?" Then he began his 18 poem and said;—

The Second Prophecy of Balaam.

"Stand up, Balak, and hear!
Listen intently, son of Tzifor!
GOD is not a man to lie;— 19
Or a son of man to change his purpose!"

HE has said!—and will HE not do?
And spoken!—will HE not perform?

Blessing, HE ordered me to 20
bless,—

And I cannot reverse it!
He perceived no fault in Jacob, 21
And saw not in Israel wrong!
The LIVING GOD is with him,
And a Kingly Cheer is his!
GOD brought him up from Mitzer; 22
He is like to a mighty bull!
There is no chain for Jacob,— 23
For Israel no subjector!

In time they will say of Jacob
and Israel,
What wonders GOD has done!
See the People! how it 24
advances!—

Like a lion it rears and stands!
It lies not down till the prey is
devoured,
And its thirst is quenched in
blood!"

- 25 Balak then exclaimed to Balaam,
 "Alas! cursing, you have not cursed!
 but blessing you have blessed!"
- 26 But Balaam responded, and said to
 Balak, "Did I not tell you this,
 saying—All that the EVER-LIVING
 commands to me I must do?"

The Third Sacrifice of Balak and Balaam.

- 27 And Balak answered to Balaam,
 "Come now,—I will take you to
 another place. Perhaps it may
 be right in the eyes of the Gods,
 and they may curse for me from
 there."
- 28 So Balak took Balaam to the top
 of the Gorge of Paur;—to the cliff
 opposite the desert.
- 29 There Balaam said to Balak,
 "Build for me here seven altars and
 prepare for me seven bullocks and
 seven rams." And Balak did as
 Balaam told him and offered a
 bullock and a ram on each altar.
- 24 But Balaam saw that it was good in
 the eyes of the EVER-LIVING to bless
 Israel; therefore he went not, as at
 the other times, to call upon snakes,
 but turned his face towards the
 2 Wilderness, and seeing Israel
 encamped by tribes, and seeing
 the spirit of the EVER-LIVING
 3 above them, he began his poem
 and said;—

The Third Prophecy of Balaam.

FIRST STANZA.

- "Balaam the son of Beor, says,—
 And the man with opened eyes
 declares,—
- 4 Who heard the speaking GOD
 dictate,
 Who saw the ALMIGHTY Life;
 Entranced, but yet with opened
 eyes!—
- 5 How lovely, Jacob, are your
 halls,
 What tents are yours, O Israel!
 They wave like rivers!
 Like watered gardens,
 Like groves the LORD has
 planted!
- 7 Like cedars beside the brooks!
 Dew-drops hang from his leaves;
 And his seed has plenty of
 water,—
 His king shall be greater than
 Agag!
 And his dominions exalted.

SECOND STANZA.

- "GOD brought him from Mitzer! 8
 What a mighty bull he is!
 He devours opposing nations,
 Grinds their bones, and crushes
 the splinters!
 He shall couch his paws like a 9
 lion,—
 Like a tiger—who dare arouse
 him?
 Who blesses you, myself will
 bless,
 And I will curse your curser!"

Balak then became furious with 10
 Balaam, and struck his hands
 together, and Balak exclaimed at
 Balaam,

"I invited you to curse my enemy,
 and yet you have blessed him these
 three times! So now be off, by 11
 yourself, to your own country! I said
 I would ennoble you;—but, however,
 the LORD keeps you from honours."

Balaam, however, replied to Balak, 12
 "Did I not also inform the ambas-
 sadors whom you sent to me, that if 13
 Balak should give me his palace full
 of silver and gold, I should not be
 able to pass beyond the command of
 the EVER-LIVING to do good or bad?
 Whatever the EVER-LIVING com-
 mands me, I must speak! And as I 14
 am going to my country, I will inform
 you what this people will do to your
 people hereafter." Then he began 15
 his poem and said;

The Doom of Moab.

- "Balaam the son of Beor says,—
 And the man with opened eyes
 declares,—
 Who heard the speaking GOD, 16
 proclaims,
 Who knows the intention of the
 Highest!
 Who saw the Almighty in a
 trance,—
 Who fell,—when his eyes were
 opened!
 I shall see Him,—but not now! 17
 I behold Him, but not near!
 He brings a Star from Jacob!
 And from Israel wields a Staff,
 That breaks the sides of Moab,
 And destroys his warlike sons.
 And he will seize upon Edom, 18
 And possess his enemy Seir,—
 For Israel forms his Host, 19
 And Jacob's son comes down,
 And cuts off escape from the
 Fort!"

- 20 Then he turned towards Amalek and continued his poem and said;

The Doom of Amalek.

"Amalek was the first of the nations,
But his posterity shall be destroyed."

- 21 Next he looked towards the Keni and continued his poem and said;—

The Doom of the Keni.

- 22 "You place and fix your house in the rock,
Yet the flame shall rage on the wall of your home!"

- 23 And concluding his poem he exclaimed,

- "Alas! who can stand against GOD?
For he strikes with a crushing hand!
Then woe to Ashur, and woe to Heber,—
For they also at last shall fail!"

- 25 Then Balaam arose and went and returned to his own country; and Balak also went away.

Israel Seduced by Moab's Girls.

- 25 But Israel remained at The Acacia Woods,¹ and the people polluted themselves by fornication with the women of Moab, who invited the people to the sacrifices of their gods. So the people ate, and worshipped their gods, and Israel joined itself to Bal-peor. Therefore the EVER-LIVING was angry with Israel, and the LORD said to Moses, "Seize the whole of the chiefs of the People, and hang them before the EVER-LIVING in open sunlight, so that the burning anger of the LORD may be turned from Israel."

- 5 Consequently Moses said to the rulers of Israel, "Each of you slay the men who have joined themselves to Bal-peor."

- 6 But a prince of the children of Israel went and brought to his brothers a Midianitess in the sight of Moses, and in the sight of all the Parliament of the children of Israel, while they were weeping at the door of the Hall of Assembly.

- 7 When Phinehas the son of Aliazer,

the son of Aaron, the priest, saw it, he arose from among the Parliament, and took a javelin in his hand, and went after the Israelite to his tent, and stabbed both the man of Israel and the woman through their bodies, and arrested the plague upon the children of Israel. But those who died from the plague were twenty-four thousand.

Promise to Phinehas for Zeal.

Then the EVER-LIVING spoke to 10 Moses, commanding;—

"Phinehas the son of Aliazer, the 11 son of Aaron the priest, has turned death away from the children of Israel, by the zeal with which he was zealous for Me among them. There- 12 fore I command to give to him the bond of peace; and he and his heirs 13 after him shall have an enduring priesthood, because he was zealous for his God; therefore he shall expiate for the children of Israel."

But the name of the Israelite who 14 was killed when the Midianitess was killed, was Zimri, the son of Salwa, an ancestral prince of the house of Simeon; and the name of the 15 Midianitess was Kosbi, the daughter of Tzur, chief of a tribe of an ancestral house of Midian.

Order to attack Midian.

The EVER-LIVING spoke to Moses, 16 commanding;—

"Assail the Midianites, and cut 17 them off from you, for they troubled 18 you by their plots, which they contrived against you in the affair of Kosbi the daughter of a prince of Midian, their sister, who was slain at the time of the plague, about the Peor matter; when the plague 19 was ended."

A Fresh Census ordered.

The EVER-LIVING afterwards also 26 commanded to Moses, and to Aliazer the son of Aaron the priest, saying; "Take a census of all the families 2 of the children of Israel, from the age of twenty years and upwards by the houses of their ancestors, all in Israel capable of army service."

Consequently Moses commanded 3 Aliazer the priest, while they were at the fords of Moab, by the Torrent near Jeriko, saying;

¹ "Shittim," in Hebrew,

- 4 "From the age of twenty years and upwards, as the EVER-LIVING commanded to Moses, when the children of Israel were brought up from the land of Mitser."

Census of the Hereditary Nobles of Israel.

- 5 Reuben was firstborn son of Israel; of Reuben, Khanok; from him were the families of the Khanokites;
From Philua, the families of the Philuaites;
- 6 From Hezron, the families of the Hezronites;
From Karmi, the families of the Karmites;
- 7 These were the families of the Reubenites, and there were enrolled forty-three thousand, seven hundred and thirty.
- 8 And the son of Philua was Eliab.
- 9 And the sons of Eliab Nemuell, and Dathan, and Abiram,—from him came Dathan and Abiram who excited the Parliament that revolted against Moses and Aaron, in the revolt of Korah, when they rebelled against
- 10 the EVER-LIVING, but the earth opened her mouth and swallowed them and Korah into death, with all those persons to the number of one hundred and fifty men, who had
- 11 joined them. But the son of Korah did not die.
- 12 The sons of Simeon by their families were;—
From Namuel, the families of the Namuelites;
From Jamin, the families of the Jaminites;
From Jakin, the families of the Jakinites;
- 13 From Zarakh, the families of the Zarakhites;
From Shaul, the families of the Shaulites;
- 14 These were the families of the Simeonites;—twenty-two thousand, two hundred.
- 15 The sons of Gad by their families were;—
From Tziphon, the families of the Tziphonites;
From Khaghi, the families of the Khaghites;
From Shuni, the families of the Shunites;
- 16 From Azni, the families of the Aznites;

From Ari, the families of the Arites;
From Arod, the families of the 17 Arodites;

From Arali, the families of the Aralites;

These were the families of the sons 18 of Gad; there were enrolled of them forty thousand, five hundred.

The sons of Judah, Ar, and Onnan, 19 but Ar and Onnan died in the land of Canan.

These, however, were the sons of 20 Judah by their families;

From Shelah, the families of the Shelaïtes;

From Pheretz, the families of the Pheretzites;

From Zerakh, the families of the Zerakhites;

And there were of the sons of 21 Pheretz,

From Khatzran, the families of the Khatzranites;

From Khamal the families of the Khamalites;

These were the families of Judah 22 who were enrolled, seventy-six thousand, five hundred.

The sons of Issakar by their families 23 were;—

From Thola, the families of the Tholites;

From Phuwah, the families of the Phuïtes;

From Yashub, the families of the 24 Yashubites;

From Shimron, the families of the Shimronites;

These were the families of Issakar, 25 with an enrolment of sixty-four thousand, three hundred.

The sons of Zebulon by their 26 families were,—

From Sored, the families of the Soredites;

From Alan, the families of the Alanites;

From Yakhlal, the families of the Yakhlalites;

These were the families of the 27 Zebulonites; with an enrolment of sixty thousand, five hundred.

The sons of Joseph, by the families 28 of Manasseh and Ephraim were,—

The sons of Manasseh; 29

From Makir, the families of the Makirites;

But Makir begot Gilad—from Gilad were the families of the Giladites

These were the sons of Gilad, 30

From Aiazar the families of the Aiazarites;

- From Khelag, the families of the Khelagites;
- 31 From Asrial, the families of the Asrialites;
- From Shekem, the families of the Shekemites;
- 32 From Shemida, the families of the Shemidaïtes;
- From Khefer, the families of the Kheferites;
- 33 From Tzilaskad, the son of Khifir, there were no sons, but only daughters, and the names of the daughters of Tzilaskad were Makhlah, and Noah, Khaglah, Milkah and Thirtzah.
- 34 These were the families of Manasseh enrolled, fifty-two thousand and seven hundred.
- 35 These were the sons of Ephraim by their families;
- From Shuthlakh were the families of the Shuthlakhites;
- From Beker, the families of the Bekerites;
- From Thakhan, the families of the Thakhanites;
- 36 And these were the sons of Shuthlakh;
- From Aran, the families of the Aranites;
- 37 These were the families of the sons of Ephraim, by enrolment, thirty-two thousand, five hundred. These were the sons of Joseph by their families.
- 38 The sons of Benjamin by their families were;—
- From Bola, the families of the Bolites;
- From Ashbel, the families of the Ashbelites;
- From Akhirm, the families of the Akhirmites;
- 39 From Shifafam, the families of the Shifafamites;
- From Khofam, the families of the Khofamites;
- 40 And there were sons of Bola, Arad, and Naman;
- From Arad, the families of the Aradites;
- From Naman, the families of the Namanites;
- 41 These were the sons of Benjamin by their families, by enrolment, forty-five thousand, six hundred.
- 42 These were the sons of Dan by their families;
- From Shukham, the families of the Shukhamites;
- These were the families of Dan by
- 43 their families, all the families of the

Shukhamites, by enrolment, were sixty-four thousand, four hundred;

The sons of Asher by their families 44 were;

From Imna, the families of the Imnites;

From Ishua, the families of the Ishuïtes;

From Beriah, the families of the Beriahites;

From the sons of Beriah;

From Kheber, the families of the Kheberites;

From Malkiel, the families of the Malkielites;—and the name of the daughter of Asher was Sarakh.

These were the families of the sons 46 of Asher, by enrolment, fifty thousand, four hundred. 47

The sons of Naphthali, by their 48 families, were;

From Yakhzal, the families of the Yakhzalites;

From Guni, the families of the Gunites;

From Itzri, the families of the 49 Itzrites;

From Shilam, the families of the Shilamites;

These were the families of Naphthali, by their families, by enrolment, forty-five thousand, four hundred. 50

These were enrolled of the sons 51 of Israel, six hundred and one thousand, seven hundred and thirty (601,730).

Division of the Land ordered.

The EVER-LIVING afterwards 52 spoke to Moses and said,

"You shall divide the country into 53 estates for them according to the number of the names. To the more 54 numerous you shall increase the portions, and to the lesser lessen the portions; each according to the enrolment shall be given their possessions. You shall distribute the 55 portions of land by lots. They shall 56 inherit by the names of the tribes of their fathers."

The Noble Families of Levi.

These also, were the chiefs of 57 Levi, by their families;

From Ghershon, the families of the Ghershonites;

From Kahath, the families of the Kahathites;

From Merari, the families of the Merarites;

58 These are the families of the Levites;

The family of Libni, the family of Khabani; the family of Makhli; the family of Mushi; the family of Kharaki; and Kahath begot Amram, and the name of Amram's wife was Yokabed, a descendant of Levi, who was born to Levi in Mitzer,¹ and she bore to Amram, Aaron, and Moses, and Miriam their sister. And there were born to Aaron, Nadab and Abihua, and Aliazer, and Aithamar. But Nadab and Abihua died in presenting strange fire in the presence of the EVER-LIVING.

62 Their enrolment was twenty-three thousand, all males from a month old and upwards. But they were not numbered among the children of Israel, for no portion was given to them among the children of Israel.

63 This was the census taken by Moses and Aliazer the priest, when they enumerated the sons of Israel at the Fords of Moab near the

64 Torrent, by Jeriko. But among these there was not one who had been enrolled by Moses and Aaron the priest when they enumerated the children of Israel in the desert of Sinai, for the EVER-LIVING had said; "They should die in the desert, and there should not remain a man of them, except Kaleb, the son of Jephannah, and Joshua, the son of Nun."

The Pain of Heiresses.

27 On one occasion the daughters of Tzilaskad, the son of Khafer, the son of Makir, the son of Manasseh, the son of Joseph,—(and the names of these girls were Maklah, Noah, and Khaglah and Mikah, and Thirtzah,)—approached, and placed themselves before Moses, and Aliazer the priest, and the Princes, and all the Parliament at the opening of the Hall of Assembly, saying;—

3 "Our father died in the desert, for he was among the confederacy who revolted against the EVER-LIVING with the associates of Korah, and he died for his sin, and he had no 4 sons. Why should the name of our

father be taken from among his family because he had not a son? Give us an inheritance among the brothers of our father."

Moses therefore presented it for 5 decision before the EVER-LIVING, and JEHOVAH commanded Moses 6 saying;—

"What the daughters of Tzilaskad 7 have asked of you grant.—Give them a share to inherit amongst the brothers of their father, and assign the inheritance of their father to them. You shall also command the 8 children of Israel, that, when a man dies and has not a son, you shall assign his estate to his daughters. But if he has no daughter you shall 9 assign his estate to his brother. But if he has no brother then you 10 shall give his estate to his father, or 11 to his next of kin of his own family, and he shall possess it, and this shall be an institution of justice, which the EVER-LIVING commands to Moses."

The Death of Moses fixed.

Then the EVER-LIVING said to 12 Moses, "Ascend this hill by the fords, and survey the country which I have given to the children of Israel. When 13 you have seen it, you shall be added to your fathers, yourself, as Aaron your brother was added, because you 14 rebelled openly in the Wilderness of Tzin, when the Parliament rebelled, in not sanctifying Me at the Waters, in their sight, at the Waters of Strife in the Wilderness of Tzin."

And Moses replied to the EVER- 15 LIVING and said; "Appoint a man, 16 LIVING God of the breath of all flesh, over the Assembly, who may 17 go out before them and come in before them; and who can lead them out and bring them back, so that the Assembly of the EVER-LIVING may not be like sheep without a shepherd."

Joshua appointed to succeed Moses.

The EVER-LIVING replied to 18 Moses "Take to yourself Joshua the son of Nun; a man who has spirit in him, and strike your hand upon him, and place him before Aliazer the 19 priest, and before all the Parliament, and appoint him in their sight; and 20 put your Majesty upon him, so that all the representatives of the children of Israel may listen to him. Thus 21

¹ V. 59. "Born to Levi in Mitzer," in the Hebrew idiom of language, does not mean to Levi personally, but simply a descendant of the Tribe. The length of time makes it impossible for her to have been Levi's personal child.—F. F.

let him stand in the presence of Aliazer the priest, who shall enquire for him by the decision of the Urim in the presence of JEHOVAH. At his command they shall come in, and at his command they shall go out, and all the children of Israel with him, and all their Parliament."

- 22 Moses therefore did as the EVER-LIVING ordered him, and took Joshua, and stationed him before Aliazer the priest, and before the Parliament, and struck his hand upon him, and he was appointed as the LORD commanded to Moses.

The Shewbread ordered, and Daily Offerings.

- 23 Then the EVER-LIVING spoke to Moses and said;
- 2 "Command the children of Israel and say to them; You shall take care to present to Me the Shewbread, as an acceptable offering, at the proper times. Also give them this order about the offering which they are to make to the EVER-LIVING of the two perfect lambs of a year old daily, as a perpetual burnt-offering.
- 4 They shall offer one lamb at daybreak, and offer the second in the afternoon; with the tenth of an ephah of fine flour mixed with a quarter of a hin of beaten oil; sacrifices such as were made constantly at Mount Sinai, for a delightful offering to the EVER-LIVING. With a drink-offering of a quarter of a hin for each lamb to pour as a drink-offering to JEHOVAH. And sacrifice the second lamb in the afternoon as a grateful, pleasant perfume to the EVER-LIVING.
- 9 "But upon the Sabbath day two perfect lambs of a year old, with two tenths of fine flour mixed with the oil and the drink-offering. That shall be the burnt-offering for the Sabbath, as well as the perpetual burnt-offerings with their drink-offerings.
- 11 "And on the first of the month you shall present as a burnt-offering to the EVER-LIVING, two bullocks from the fold, and one ram, with seven perfect he-lambs of a year old, and three tenths of fine flour mixed with oil as a food-offering for a bullock; and two tenths of fine flour mixed with oil as a food-offering with a single ram, and a tenth of an asheran of fine flour mixed with oil to one

lamb, as a sacrifice of pleasant scent to the EVER-LIVING, and their drink-offerings shall be half a hin for a bullock, and the third of a hin of wine for the ram, and a quarter of a hin of wine for a lamb. This shall be the burnt-offering month by month for every month of the year; with one ram of the goats for a sin-offering to the EVER-LIVING. It shall be offered along with the perpetual burnt-offering and the drink-offering.

"In the first month also,—on the fourteenth day of the month,—is the Passover of the EVER-LIVING; and on the fifteenth day of this month shall be a festival of seven days, when biscuits shall be eaten. On the first day proclaim a holy rest. You shall do no labouring work, but present as a sweet burnt-offering to the EVER-LIVING, two bullocks from the herd, and a ram, and seven lambs of a year old. Perfect ones shall be chosen; with a food-offering of three tenths of fine flour mixed with oil, for each bullock, and two tenths offered with the ram. A single tenth shall be offered with each lamb of the seven lambs. One he-goat also for a sin-offering, to expiate for you; you shall offer these beside the sacrifice at daybreak, which is offered continually. Do the same daily for seven days offering bread as a sweet, delightful perfume to the EVER-LIVING. It must be offered besides the perpetual burnt-offering, and drink-offering. Proclaim also that the seventh day shall be holy to you. You shall do no labouring work in it.

"And upon the Day of First-fruits you shall present a bread-offering from the land to the EVER-LIVING, when a holiday shall be proclaimed as a rest for you. You shall not do any labouring work in it; but present, as a burnt-offering, delightful to the EVER-LIVING, two bullocks from the herd and a ram with seven lambs of a year old, and as a bread-offering, three tenths of fine flour mixed with oil for each bullock, and two tenths with a ram, with a tenth of an asheran for each lamb, of the seven lambs; and a he-goat to expiate for you; beside perpetual sacrifices and the bread-offerings you offer daily, there shall be these with their drink-offerings.

29 "And in the seventh month you shall proclaim the first of the month holy to the EVER-LIVING. You shall do no servile work. Make it your
 2 day of rejoicing to the LORD, and offer as a burnt-offering delightful to the EVER-LIVING a bullock from the fold, a ram, and seven perfect lambs
 3 of a year old; and as a bread-offering three tenths of fine flour mixed with oil for the bullock,—two tenths with
 4 the ram, and one tenth with each one of the seven lambs; and a ram of the goats as a sin-offering to expiate for
 5 you; beside the burnt-offerings of the month, and the food-offerings, and the perpetual sacrifices, and their bread-offerings, and drink-offerings as decreed, for a pleasant scent to the EVER-LIVING.
 7 "And you shall proclaim the tenth of the seventh month holy to the EVER-LIVING, when you shall lower
 8 your lives, and do no work; but offer in burnt-offerings to the EVER-LIVING as a sweet perfume, a bullock from the herd; a ram; seven perfect
 9 lambs of a year old; and as a bread-offering three tenths of fine flour mixed with oil for the bullock; two
 10 tenths for the ram; the tenth of an asheran for each one of the seven
 11 lambs; with a ram of the goats as a sin-offering; beside the sin-offerings of expiation, and the perpetual sacrifices, and the food-offerings and drink-offerings.
 12 "And you shall also proclaim the fifteenth day of the seventh month holy to you. You shall not do any labouring work in it, but feast a festival to the
 13 EVER-LIVING for seven days. Then you shall present as a burnt-offering of delightful scent to JEHOVAH, thirteen bullocks; two rams; fourteen he-lambs for a year old. They
 14 shall be perfect; with their food-offerings of three tenths of fine flour mixed with oil, to each bullock, of the thirteen bullocks; two tenths to
 15 each ram of the two rams; and a tenth of an asheran to each of the
 16 lambs, of the fourteen lambs; with a he-goat as a sin-offering; beside the perpetual food-offerings and drink-offerings.
 17 "And upon the second day, twelve perfect bullocks from the herd; two rams; fourteen lambs of a year old;
 18 with bread-offerings and drink-offerings for the bullocks, for the rams, and for the lambs by the rule as

decreed; with a ram of the goats as
 19 a sin-offering, beside the perpetual sacrifices with their bread and drink offerings.

"And upon the third day, twelve
 20 perfect bullocks, two rams, fourteen lambs of a year old, with bread and
 21 drink offerings with the bullocks, rams, and lambs, according to the rule decreed; and a goat for a sin-
 22 offering; beside the perpetual sacrifices, and their bread and drink offerings.

"And upon the fourth day, ten
 23 perfect bullocks, two rams, fourteen lambs of a year old; with bread and
 24 drink offerings according to the rule decreed; and a he-goat for a sin-
 25 offering, beside the perpetual sacrifices with their bread and drink offerings.

"And upon the fifth day;—nine
 26 perfect bullocks, two rams, fourteen lambs of a year old; with bread and
 27 drink offerings for the bullocks, for the rams, and for the lambs, according to the rule decreed; and a he-
 28 goat for a sin-offering, beside the perpetual sacrifices, with their bread and drink offerings.

"And upon the sixth day;—eight
 29 perfect bullocks, two rams, fourteen lambs of a year old; with bread and
 30 drink offerings for the bullocks, for the rams, and for the lambs, according to the rule decreed; with a he-
 31 goat for a sin-offering, beside the perpetual sacrifices, with their bread and drink offerings.

"And upon the seventh day;—
 32 seven perfect bullocks, two rams, fourteen lambs of a year old; with
 33 bread and drink offerings for the bullocks, the rams, and lambs, according to the rule decreed; and a
 34 he-goat for a sin-offering, beside the perpetual sacrifices, with their bread and drink offerings.

"And upon the eighth day you
 35 shall have a Festival. You shall do no servile work, but present as a
 36 sacrifice of delightful scent to the EVER-LIVING a perfect bullock, a ram, and seven lambs of a year old;
 37 with bread and drink offerings for the bullock, for the ram, and for the lambs, according to the rule decreed;
 38 with a he-goat for a sin-offering, beside the perpetual sacrifices with their bread and drink offerings. You
 39 shall sacrifice these to the EVER-LIVING in your Festival, beside your

vows, and free-will offerings, with your sacrifices, and your bread and drink offerings, and your thank-offering."

- 30 Moses consequently reported to the children of Israel all that the EVER-LIVING commanded to Moses.

The Law of Vows to God.

- 2 Then Moses addressed the chiefs of the tribes of the children of Israel, saying;

"This is the thing that the EVER-LIVING commands,

- 3 "A person who vows a vow to JEHOVAH, or swears an oath to bind his soul, shall not repudiate his word, but perform all that has come out of his mouth.

Law of Vows by Women.

- 4 "And a woman who has vowed a vow to the EVER-LIVING, but who is yet in the house of her father in her youth; when her father hears of her vow, and the bond with which she has bound her soul, and her father is silent upon it, then every vow shall stand, and every bond shall stand, with which she has bound her soul.
- 6 But if her father comes to forbid her at the time he hears of any vow or bond with which she has bound her soul, it shall not stand; and JEHOVAH will release her, because her father forbids it.
- 7 "But if she has a husband, and she takes a vow upon her, or rashly utters from her lips what might bind her soul; when her husband hears of it, if he keeps silent to her at the time he hears, then the vow and bond with which she has bound her soul shall stand; but if at the time her husband hears of it, he prohibits it; then the vow which she has vowed upon herself, and the rash utterance of her lips by which she has bound her soul, shall be annulled, and the EVER-LIVING will release it.
- 10 "But the vow of a widow, or a divorced woman,—all that they bind upon their souls shall stand upon them.
- 11 "Yet if the mistress of a house binds a bond upon her soul with an oath; if when her husband hears of it he keeps silent to her, not forbidding it, then every vow, and every bond which she has bound upon her

soul shall stand. But if at the time 13 her husband hears it he annuls them, all that came out of her lips as a vow, or a bond upon her soul, shall not stand. Her husband has annulled it, and the EVER-LIVING will release it. Every vow and every oath bind- 14 ing to afflict the soul, her husband may confirm and her husband may annul; but if her husband keeps 15 silent to her from day to day, then he confirms them; for he was silent to her at the time he heard. But if 16 he annuls them, after having heard of them, then he takes away any blame."

These are the laws that the EVER- 17 LIVING commanded to Moses about husband and wife; and about father and young girl in the house of her father.

War with Midian commanded.

The EVER-LIVING spoke to Moses 31 and said;—

"Arouse the children of Israel 2 against the Midianites after you have enumerated your people."

Moses therefore spoke to the People 3 saying;—

"Select from yourselves officers for a war with the Midianites, for the LORD has ordered an advance against Midian, of a thousand from each 4 tribe, from all the tribes of Israel, to go upon an expedition." So they 5 massed from the tribes of Israel, by a thousand from each tribe, twelve thousand chosen for the war, and 6 Moses sent the thousand from each tribe to the war, with Phinehas the son of Aliazer the priest, and the sacred furniture, and the gongs in his possession to encourage them. These made war against Midian as 7 the EVER-LIVING commanded Moses, and slew every leader. They also 8 slew the kings of Midian in the slaughter, Air, and Rekem, and Tzur, and Khur, and Raba, the five kings of Midian, and also slew Balaam the son of Beor with the sword.

Then the children of Israel took 9 possession of the women of Midian, with their children, and all the cattle, and all their property, and all their people, as booty, with all the villages which they inhabited, and burnt all 10 their furniture with fire, and carried off 11 all the plunder, and all the spoil from the field and from the person. Then 12 they brought the captives to Moses,

and Aliazer the priest, and to the Parliament of the children of Israel, along with the plunder, and the booty, to the camp at the Fords of Moab, which was beside the Torrent near Jeriko.

- 13 Then Moses and Aliazer the priest, with all the princes of the Parliament went out to meet them outside the
14 camp. But Moses was angry with the officers of the army, the colonels of regiments, and captains of companies, who returned with the army
15 from the war, and Moses asked them;

- "Why have you kept the women alive? What were they to the children of Israel under the advice of
16 Balaam?—They seduced them to desert the EVER-LIVING in the affair of Peor, and they brought a pestilence upon the congregation of JEHOVAH.
17 Now, therefore, kill every male child, and every woman who has known
18 man sexually,—kill! But let every young girl who has not known a man
19 sexually live for yourselves. Also pitch your tents outside the camp for seven days, all who have killed a person, or been wounded in battle. You must be cleansed from defilement at the sixth day, and on the seventh day, you and your prisoners,
20 and all your clothing and every article of leather, and all fabrics of hair, and every article of wood, shall be cleansed."

The Law of Prize in War, and its Purification.

- 21 Then Aliazer the priest said to the commanders of the army who came from the war, "This is the Constitutional Law which the EVER-LIVING
22 has commanded to Moses. All the gold and the silver, and the brass, and the iron, the tin, and the lead,
23 all things which can resist fire, you shall put through the fire to purify them; but everything that is not able to endure fire shall be cleansed by passing through water, by washing
24 in water. You shall also wash your clothes on the seventh day, and purify yourselves, and afterwards you may enter the camp."

Law of Dividing Booty of War.

- 25 The EVER-LIVING also spoke to Moses and said;
26 "You, and Aliazer, and the princes

of the fathers of the Parliament, take an account of the booty of the prisoners; both of the men and of the cattle, and divide the booty among
27 the captors of the brigade who brought it from the campaign, and among all their people. But take off a tax from
28 them for the EVER-LIVING from the soldiers who actually went into battle, one head from five hundred of the men, and of the cattle, and of the asses, and of the sheep. You shall take
29 it from their share, and give it to Aliazer the priest, as a tax for the EVER-LIVING. But from the share
30 for the children of Israel you shall take one from every fifty of the men, of the cattle, and of the asses, and of the sheep, and from all the animals, and give them to the Levites who form the guard of the sanctuary of the EVER-LIVING."

Moses and Aliazer therefore did as
31 JEHOVAH commanded to Moses; and
32 the prize, beside the plunder that the People plundered in the army,—was of sheep six hundred and seventy-five thousand, and of cattle seventy-
33 two thousand; and of asses sixty-one
34 thousand, and of persons, with the
35 girls who had not known man sexually, all the human individuals were thirty-two thousand.

But the half of the booty that came
36 to the army was;—from the number of sheep three hundred and thirty-seven thousand, and five hundred. And the tax of the LORD from the
37 sheep was six hundred and seventy-five; and of cattle thirty-six thousand;
38 and the tax to the LORD seventy-two. And of asses thirty thousand and
39 five hundred; and the tax for the LORD was sixty-one. And of human
40 beings, sixteen thousand; and the tax for the EVER-LIVING thirty-two persons.

And Moses gave the taxes which
41 were the LORD'S, as a raised offering, to Aliazer the priest, as the EVER-LIVING commanded to Moses.

But the portion of the children of
42 Israel, which Moses took from the soldiers, and which was the share of
43 the Parliament,—was of sheep three hundred and thirty-seven thousand, and five hundred; and of cattle,
44 thirty-six thousand, and of asses
45 thirty thousand, five hundred; and of
46 human beings sixteen thousand.
47 Moses also took from this share of the children of Israel one from every

fifty, both of the men, and of the beasts, and gave them to the Levites of the guard who guarded the sanctuary of the EVER-LIVING, as the LORD commanded to Moses.

The Army Officers offer a Free Gift.

48 Then the officers of the regiments of the army—the colonels of regiments, and the captains of companies, 49 presented themselves to Moses, and said to Moses;—

“Your servants were promoted to be the chief commanders in the campaign which is in our hand, and not 50 a man of us is missing, therefore we present this gift to the EVER-LIVING, each from what he has found of articles of gold, anklets, and bracelets, seals, earrings, and beads, to expiate for our persons before the EVER-LIVING, for our lives.”

51 Moses and Aliazer the priest, therefore, accepted from them all these 52 articles made of gold. And the weight of the gold presented to the EVER-LIVING by the colonels of the regiments, and the captains of companies, was sixteen thousand, seven hundred 53 and fifty shekels; for the commanders in the army had each plundered for 54 themselves; so Moses and Aliazer the priest accepted the gold from the commanders of regiments and companies, and brought it into the Hall of Assembly, as a remembrance from the children of Israel before JEHOVAH.

The Reubenites and Gadites ask for Yazer and Gilad.

32 But the number of cattle belonging to the sons of Reuben, and the sons of Gad was very numerous, and they saw that the district of Yazer, and the district of Gilad were places for 2 cattle. So the sons of Gad and the sons of Reuben came to Moses and Aliazer the priest, and the princes of the Parliament, to say;—

3 “Ataroth, and Diban, and Nimrah, and Kheshbon, and Alalah, and 4 Shibma, and Nebo, and Ban,—the country that the EVER-LIVING has conquered before the Commonwealth of Israel,—is a place for cattle, and 5 your servants possess cattle. And,” they continued, “if then your servants have found favour in your eyes, give this district to your servants to possess and we will not pass over the Jordan.”

But Moses said to the sons of Gad, 6 and to the sons of Reuben;—

“Your brothers are going over the Jordan, and would you stay here? Why should you discourage the hearts 7 of the children of Israel from passing to the country which the EVER-LIVING has given to them? Your fathers 8 did the same, when I sent them from Kadesh-Barnea to survey the country, when they proceeded to the brook of 9 Ashkol, and examined the country, and discouraged the hearts of the children of Israel, so that they would not go to the land which the EVER-LIVING had given them, and the 10 anger of JEHOVAH burnt at that time, 11 and He declared, saying;—‘The men who come up out of the Mitzeraim, from twenty years old and upwards, shall not see the country which I promised to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob,—for they are not sincerely following Me;—except Kaleb the son 12 of Jephunah, the Kenezite, and Joshua the son of Nun, who sincerely followed the EVER-LIVING.’ The anger 13 of JEHOVAH consequently burnt against Israel, and they wandered forty years in the Wilderness, until all that generation who had done wrong in the sight of the EVER-LIVING had died. And now you arise 14 in the place of your fathers to continue the burning anger of the LORD against Israel, for you are turning 15 back from Him, and will cause Him to retain them in the Wilderness and consume all this people!”

But they pressed upon him and 16 said;—

“We will build folds to guard our sheep, and cities for our children, but 17 we ourselves are ready for action, and will advance ardently before the children of Israel to their districts wherever they may go. But our children can rest in the fortified towns, guarded from the inhabitants of the country. We will not return to our 18 homes until the children of Israel have each been put into possession of his estate. And we will not inherit 19 over the Jordan, nor westward, but our possessions shall be to the east of the fords of the Jordan.”

Then Moses replied to them; 20

“If you will do this,—if you will be ready for action before the EVER-LIVING in the war, and pass fully 21 armed over the Jordan before the EVER-LIVING until His enemies are

22 driven from before Him, then, when the country is subdued to JEHOVAH, you may return; and this district shall be given you from the EVER-LIVING, and from Israel, and this country shall be yours to possess it in the presence of the LORD. But if you will not do so, then you will sin against the EVER-LIVING,—and you know the punishment for sin that will meet you. You can build towns for your children, and folds for your flocks,—and return when you have done so."

25 The sons of Gad and the sons of Reuben replied to Moses saying;—"Your servants will do as Our Lord commands. Our children, wives and cattle shall be here in the cities of Gilad; but your servants will pass over fully equipped for war with the army of the EVER-LIVING, as your Lordship has said."

The Parliament called to sanction the Proposals of Reuben and Gad.

28 Then Moses convoked Aliazer the priest, and Joshua the son of Nun, and the chief fathers of the tribes of the children of Israel,—and Moses said to them, "If the sons of Gad and the sons of Reuben pass over the Jordan fully equipped for the war of the EVER-LIVING, and subdue the country before you, then you shall give them the land of Gilad for a possession. But if they do not go over ready for action, then they shall only inherit in the land of Canan."

31 The sons of Gad, and the sons of Reuben answered, saying;—"Your servants will do what the EVER-LIVING has said. We will pass over fully equipped before the EVER-LIVING to the land of Canan, and we will possess our inheritance on this side of the Jordan."

33 So Moses gave to the sons of Gad and the sons of Reuben, and the half tribe of Manasseh, the son of Joseph, the kingdoms of Sihon, king of the Amorites, and the kingdoms of Og, king of Bashan. The land and its towns, with the surrounding country of the villages.

34 So the sons of Gad built Diban, and Ataroth, and Arar, and Ataroth-Shufan, and Jazer, and Igbakhah, and Beth-minrah, and Beth-horon;—fortified towns, with folds for sheep.

37 And the sons of Reuben built Keshbon, and Alalah, Kiriathaim,

and Athbano, and Athbal-maon, 38 changing its name, and Sibma, and they called Bethmoth, Shemoth. These were the towns they built.

Then the sons of Makir, the son 39 of Manasseh, marched to Gilad and captured it, and drove out the Amorites who were in it, so Moses gave 40 Gilad to Makir, the descendant of Manasseh, and he occupied it.

Then Yair the son of Manasseh 41 marched and captured some forts, and called them the forts of Yair.

Then Nobakh marched and captured Kaneth, and its villages, and named it Nobakh, after his own name.

Record of Israel's Marches from Egypt to the Jordan.

These are the marches of the 33 children of Israel who came under the direction of Moses and Aaron from the land of the Mitzeraim by their armies. (For Moses registered 2 their advance by marches, by instructions from the EVER-LIVING; and these are the marches they advanced by.¹)

They marched first from Ramases, 3 in the first month, upon the fifteenth day of the first month;—

After the morning of the Pass-over, the children of Israel advanced with a high hand in the sight of all Mitzeraim, whilst the Mitzerites 4 were burying those whom JEHOVAH had killed among them,—all their firstborn. And JEHOVAH also executed justice upon their gods.

So the children of Israel marched 5 from Ramases, and pitched their tents at Skuth. Then they marched 6 from Skuth and pitched at Atham, which is on the border of the desert. Then they marched from Atham, and 7 pitched and occupied the Mouth of Hakhiroth,² which is opposite Balzefon, and pitched before the fortress. Then they marched from Hakhiroth 8 and passed over through the sea to the desert, and advanced in that direction three days to the Desert of Atham, and pitched at Marah. Then 9 they marched from Marah and came to Ailam, and there were at Ailam

¹ V. 2 is an ancient editor's note, introducing the record of Moses, not part of his text apparently, as the change of person shows.—F. F.

² V. 7. Hakhiroth, "The Mouth of the Shallows."—F F

twelve springs of water, and seventy palm trees, so they pitched there.
 10 Then they returned from Ailam and
 11 pitched at the Sea of Suf.¹ Then they
 marched from the Sea of Suf, and
 12 pitched in the desert of Zin. Then
 they marched from the Desert of
 13 Zin, and pitched in Dafakah. Then
 they marched from Dafakah, and
 14 pitched in Alush. Then they
 marched from Alush, and pitched
 in Rephidim; but there was no water
 15 there for the people to drink. Then
 they marched from Rephidim, and
 16 pitched in the Desert of Sinai. Then
 they marched from the Desert of
 Sinai, and pitched in Kibroth Hatha-
 17 vah. Then they marched from Kibroth
 Hathavah, and pitched in Khatzeroth.
 18 Then they marched from Khatzeroth,
 19 and pitched in Rithmah. Then they
 20 marched from Rithmah, and pitched
 in Rimon-fartz. Then they marched
 from Rimon-fartz, and pitched in
 21 Libnah. Then they marched from
 22 Libnah, and pitched in Risah. Then
 they marched from Risah, and pitched
 23 in Kahlatha. Then they marched
 from Kahlatha, and pitched at Mount
 24 Shafir. Then they marched from
 Mount Shafir, and pitched in Kha-
 25 radah. Then they marched from
 Kharadah, and pitched in Makhloth.
 26 Then they marched from Makhloth,
 27 and pitched in Thakhath. Then they
 marched from Thakhath, and pitched
 28 in Tharakh. Then they marched
 from Tharakh, and pitched in Mit-
 29 haka. Then they marched from
 Mithaka, and pitched in Khashmona.
 30 Then they marched from Khashmona,
 and pitched in Moseroth. Then they
 31 marched from Moseroth, and pitched
 32 in among the Beni Yakan. Then
 they marched from the Beni Yakan,
 and pitched in the vale of Gadgad.
 33 Then they marched from the vale of
 Gadgad, and encamped in Yatbatha.
 34 Then they marched from Yatbatha,
 35 and encamped in Aberona. Then
 they marched from Aberona, and
 36 encamped in Atzin-gaber. Then they
 marched from Atzin-gaber, and en-
 camped in the desert of Tzin.²
 37 Then they marched from Kadesh,
 and encamped at the Peak-hill, on

the borders of the land of Moab,
 and Aaron the priest ascended the 38
 Peak-hill¹ by the order of the
 EVER-LIVING, and died there, in the
 fortieth year from the coming of the
 children of Israel out of Mitzer, on
 the first of the fifth month. And 39
 Aaron was a hundred and twenty-
 three years old at his death on the
 Peak-hill.

The Cananites of Arad oppose Israel.

When the Cananite king of Arad 40
 heard that the children of Israel were
 advancing by the south country, he
 occupied the Peak-hill.

So they marched from the Peak- 41
 hill, and encamped at Tzalmonah.
 Then they marched from Tzalmonah, 42
 and encamped at Fonan. Then they 43
 marched from Fonan, and encamped
 at Aboth. Then they marched from 44
 Aboth, and encamped at Avi, at the
 Passes, on the border of Moab. Then 45
 they marched from Avi, and encamped
 at Diban Gad. Then they marched 46
 from Diban-Gad, and encamped at
 Alman. Then they marched from 47
 Alman by Diblathim, and encamped
 at the Hills of the Passes, opposite to
 Nebo. Then they marched from the 48
 Hills of the Passes, and encamped at
 the Fords of Moab, on the Jordan.
 Then they extended along the 49
 Jordan from Beth-Yeshimoth to the
 Acacia Meadows² upon the Fords of
 Moab.

There the EVER-LIVING spoke to 50
 Moses at the Fords of Moab,² oppo-
 site Jeriko, commanding;—

Commands on the Invasion of Canan.

"Speak to the children of Israel, 51
 and say to them;

"Now you are about to pass over
 the Jordan to the land of Canan, you 52
 shall drive out all the possessors of
 that country before you, and destroy
 them, and their towers, and destroy
 all those bronze idols, and destroy
 all their High-places, and seize the 53
 country; for I have given the land to
 you to possess. But you shall divide 54
 the land by lots to your families. To

¹ Sea of Weeds.—F. F.

² ("Which is Kadesh.") The words in the parentheses are a note of an ancient editor to explain the text, not part of the Mosala record.—F. F.

¹ Ar-Ahar.—F. F.

² The Acacia Meadows, in Hebrew "Abal-shittim."

the large you shall increase the portions, and to the small you shall lessen the portions. Whatever lot falls to any one shall be his, and apportioned to him in the tribe of his fathers.

55 But if you do not drive out the inhabitants of the land who occupy it, the remainder of them will be pricks in your eyes, and thorns in your sides, and a torment to you in the land where you reside. And I will do to you as I intended to do to them."

The Bounds of the Promised Land.

34 The EVER-LIVING also spoke to Moses to say;—

2 "Command the children of Israel and say to them;

"Now you are come to the land of Canan;—the land which has fallen to you to inherit,—the land of Canan with her surroundings. And they shall be yours on the south side from the Wilderness of Tzin, on the borders of Edom.

"These are your borders south; from the end of the Salt Sea eastward; and along from there your boundary towards the south shall be from the ascent of Akrahim, and across to Tzin, then turn up from the south to Kadesh Barnea, and proceed to the Castle of Adar, and pass over to Atzinar. Then the boundary turning from Atzmon towards the River of Mitzer shall proceed to the west, and your boundary shall be the sea, The Great Sea;—that shall be your boundary on the west.

7 "And this shall be your boundary on the north; you shall mark out from the Great Sea, at the Hill of Hills.¹ From the Hill of Hills you shall mark out to the Pass of Khamath, and take a line to the borders of Tzadda. Thence your northern boundary shall start and proceed to Khatzar-ainan; that shall be your border to the north.

10 "Then you shall mark your eastern boundary from Khatzar-ainan to Shafnah; and the frontier shall run from Shafnah with Riblah on the east, to Ain, where the line shall descend and extend to the eastern shoulder of the Lake of Kineroth. Thence the frontier shall run by the Jordan and extend to the Salt Sea. This shall be your country with its surrounding bounds."

¹ Lebanon.—F. F.

The Allotment of Palestine to the Nine and a Half Tribes.

Therefore Moses commanded the 13 children of Israel, saying;—

"This is the country which you shall divide by lot; which the EVER-LIVING has commanded to give to the nine and a half tribes; because the 14 tribe of Reuben have taken for their ancestors' house; and the tribe of the sons of Gad for their ancestors' house with the house of Ephraim and the half tribe of Manasseh, have taken their share;—these two tribes and 15 the half tribe, have taken their shares before the Jordan, opposite Jeriko.¹

The EVER-LIVING also spoke to 16 Moses, commanding;—

"These two men shall divide the 17 land for you,—Aliazer the priest, and Joshua the son of Nun, with one prince from each of the tribes who shall superintend the division of the land; and these are the names of the 18 men;

"From the tribe of Judah, Kaleb 19 the son of Jefonah;

"From the tribe of the sons of 20 Simeon, Shamuel the son of Amihud;

"From the tribe of Benjamin, 21 Alidad the son of Kislion;

"From the tribe of the sons of Dan, 22 Prince Buki, the son of Igli;

"From the sons of Joseph;—From 23 the tribe of the sons of Manasseh, Prince Khanial the son of Afod;

"From the tribe of the sons of 24 Ephraim, Prince Kamual, the son of Shiftan;

"From the tribe of the sons of 25 Zebulun, Prince Alizafan, the son of Padnak;

"From the tribe of the sons of 26 Issakar, Prince Faltiel, the son of Azan;

"From the tribe of the sons of 27 Asher, Akhihud, the son of Shalmi;

"From the tribe of the sons of 28 Naphthali, Prince Fidahl, the son of Amihud;

"The EVER-LIVING commands 29 these to divide the land of Canan to the children of Israel."

1 V. 15. "Before the Jordan, opposite Jeriko," is evidence that in this allotment we have the actual words of Moses, who wrote his narrative on the eastern side of Jordan;—"on the east towards the sunrise") is a Jerusalem editor's note, written as an explanation for readers on the West of Jordan, centuries after the death of Moses.—F. F.

Cities ordered for the Levites.

35 The EVER-LIVING spoke to Moses at the Fords of Moab by the Jordan opposite Jeriko, saying;

2 "Command the children of Israel, that they must give to the Levites, as a heritable portion, towns for residence, with pastures around those 3 towns, for the Levites. And the towns shall be for their residence, and the pastures for their cattle and 4 their animals. The pastures which you are to give to the Levites outside the walls of the towns shall be a space 5 of two thousand cubits. You shall thus measure from the outside wall of the towns, on the eastern side, two thousand cubits, and on the south side two thousand cubits, and on the west side two thousand cubits, and on the north side, two thousand cubits; with the town in the centre. These shall be the pasture lands of those towns.

6 "You shall also assign to the Levites these towns;—six cities of refuge to be provided for man-slayers. And beside them provide forty-two 7 cities—a total of forty-eight. All these towns shall be assigned to the Levites, being for them, and their pasturage. 8 But the towns that you assign from the children of Israel shall be according to their numbers, large, and according to their fewness, small,—each according to the extent of the district which they inherit shall give towns to the Levites. According to their shares, they shall assign equivalent towns to the Levites."

Cities of Refuge ordered.

9 The EVER-LIVING also spoke to Moses, commanding;—

10 "Speak to the children of Israel and say to them;

"You are now about to pass over the Jordan to the land of Canan.

11 Therefore appoint for yourselves Cities of Refuge, that man-slayers, who have cut off a life by accident, 12 may fly to them. And they shall be your Cities of Refuge from the Avenger, so that the fugitive may not be killed, until he has stood in the presence of 13 a jury for trial. Therefore shall you appoint six Cities of Refuge for yourselves. You shall appoint three of 14 the Cities on this side the Jordan, and three Cities in the land of Canan, 15 to be Cities of Refuge, for the children

of Israel and for foreigners residing among you. These three cities shall be Cities of Refuge for everyone who has cut off a life by accident. Thus 16 if he strikes any with an instrument of iron, and he dies, he is a man-slayer; the man-slayer would be killed; or if he throws a stone which 17 wounds mortally, and the wounded dies, he is a man-slayer; the man-slayer would be killed; or strikes 18 with an instrument of wood a deadly blow, and the wounded dies from it, he is a man-slayer; the man-slayer would be killed. The Avenger 19 would kill the wounder; he would kill the wounder when found. would kill him.

"But if from hatred he stabs or 20 shoots at one from a hiding place, and kills, or from hatred strikes with 21 his hand, and kills; he shall be killed who has struck the wound; The Avenger of Blood shall kill the wounder when he finds him.

"But if undesignedly, not from 22 enmity, one stabs or shoots another with any instrument, not treacherously, or kills with a stone, not having 23 seen;—or it falls upon a person who dies,—whom he did not hate, and did not seek to injure,—then the jury 24 shall judge between the accused and the Avenger, according to these rules; and the jury shall deliver the accused 25 from the hand of the Avenger. But the jury shall assign him to the City of Refuge to which he shall go, and stay there until the death of the High Priest who has been consecrated with the Oil of Consecration.

"But if the man-slayer goes beyond 26 the boundaries of the City of Refuge to which he has fled; and the Avenger 27 of Blood meets him outside the bounds of the City of Refuge, then the Avenger of Blood may kill the slayer, without blood being upon himself; for he ought to have remained in the 28 City of Refuge until the death of the High Priest. But after the death of the High Priest the man-slayer may reside in his own district.

The Constitutional Law of Murder

"These shall be Constitutional 29 Laws to your descendants, in all your residences;—

"Whoever cuts off a life, the slayer 30 shall be slain on the evidence of two witnesses; but upon the evidence of one you shall not condemn a person

- 31 to death. And you shall not take any ransom for a life; the man-slayer whom mortally injures, shall die a death.
- 32 You shall also not accept a ransom from the refugee to a City of Refuge, to return to rest in the country, until
- 33 the death of the priest, so that you may not corrupt the land you reside in; for blood pollutes the land, and the land will not cover the blood that is shed upon it; for the life is in the
- 34 blood; consequently you shall not defile the land you dwell in,—amidst which I encamp,—for I, the EVER-LIVING, encamp in the midst of the children of Israel."

The Law of the Marriage of Heiresses.

- 36 The ancestral chiefs of the family of the sons of Gilad, the son of Makir, the son of Manasseh of the family of the son of Joseph, came before Moses and the presence of the Princes, the ancestral chiefs of the children of Israel, and said;
- "The EVER-LIVING commanded Our Prince to apportion the land by lot to the children of Israel, and the Prince was commanded by the EVER-LIVING to give the share of Tzilafad, our brother, to his daughters. But they may take any one of the sons of the tribes of Israel for a husband, and carry away their shares from the shares of our families, and thus lessen the portions of the tribe to which they belong, and take away from our
- 4 allotted share. And when the Jubilee comes to the children of Israel, then that portion will be added to the portion of the tribe to which they have gone, and the share of the

tribe of their fathers will lose their shares?"

Consequently Moses commanded 5 the children of Israel by instruction from the EVER-LIVING, saying;—

"The argument of the sons of the tribe of Joseph is fair. This is the 6 order of the EVER-LIVING to the daughters of Tzilafad:—They may decide to be wives to anyone who is good in their eyes; but their husband shall be only from a family of their father's tribe, so that the portions of 7 the children of Israel may not be removed from tribe to tribe, for all the portions of the ancestral houses of the children of Israel shall be kept together. Therefore any daughter 8 inheriting an estate in any of the tribes of the children of Israel, shall become the wife of one from her father's tribe, so that the children of Israel may each inherit the share of his father; for no estate shall 9 change from tribe to tribe. After each portion has been allotted, it shall be kept in the same tribe of the children of Israel."

The daughters of Tzilafad accordingly 10 did as the EVER-LIVING commanded to Moses. And the daughters 11 of Tzilafad, Makhla, Thirza, Khagla, and Milka, and Noah, were given as wives to the sons of their uncles, of 12 the family of the sons of Manasseh, the son of Joseph, they were their wives. Thus their portions remained in the tribe of Manasseh their father. These were the commands, and the 13 institutions which the EVER-LIVING ordained through the medium of Moses, to the children of Israel, at the Fords of Moab, by the Jordan, beyond Jeriko.

END OF THE BOOK OF NUMBERS.